WALKER'S

HIBERNIAN MAGAZINE:

OR,

Compendium of Entertaining Knowledge.

FOR MAY, 1807.

We preſent the Public with a beautiful Engraving, from the admired ROMANCE OF THE PYRENEES, repreſenting, 'ELFRIDII imagining that he ſees the murdered VIOLA in the Winding Paſſage.' Chap. LXVII.

Memoirs of SIR FRANCIS BURDETT, Baronet, of Bramcote, Warwickſhire, formerly Member of Parliament for Boroughbridge, in Yorkſhire, and the County of Middleſex, and now for the City of Weſtminſter. Including a ſuccinct Account of the Ancient and Remarkable Family of Burdett, traced from the Time of William the Conqueror. (Accompanied with a Whole Length Portrait of this celebrated Baronet, an acknowledged ſtriking Likeneſs.) From an Engliſh Publication.

THIS remarkable patriotic gentleman is deſcended from a very ancient and opulent family, whoſe origin we have traced in an uninterrupted ſucceſſion from the landing of William the conqueror. Hugh de Burdett came into England with William in the year 1066. He left iſſue, William Burdett, lord of Louſely, in Leiceſterſhire, who founded the priory of Aucote, in Warwickſhire, temp. Henry II. to expiate the murder of his wife. This William being a devout man, made a journey to the holy land, in order to ſubdue the infidels: his ſteward, in his abſence, attempted the chaſtity of his lady, who reſiſted him with ſcorn. On his maſter's arrival in England, he went to meet him, and to cover his own crimes, complained of her looſeneſs with others, which ſo enraged her huſband, that when ſhe approached to receive him with joyful embraces, he mortally ſtabbed her.

The family had large poſſeſſions in Warwickſhire and other counties for many generations. One of them was Thomas Burdett, eſq. who from the ſeventh to the fourteenth of Edward IV. was in commiſſion for conſerving the peace; but in 1477 he incurred the king's diſpleaſure for his affection to the duke of Clarence; ſo ſtruck were the eyes and ears of his enemies, that an advantage was ſo taken to deprive him of his life, for hearing that the king had killed a white buck in his park, at Arrow, which he ſet much ſtore by, he paſſionately wiſhed the horns in the belly of him who moved the king ſo to do; for which words he was arraigned and convicted of high treaſon, upon inference of a miſchievous meaning to the king himſelf, and was beheaded in 1477.

Thomas, the eighteenth in deſcent

from de Burdett, was advanced to the dignity of baronet. He married Jane, daughter and heir of William Frauneys, of Foremark, esq. which seat has, since that time, been the chief residence of the family. He was esteemed a charitable good man, and afforded to the famous archbishop Sheldon, an agreeable sanctuary at Bramcote, during the exile of Charles II. Sir Thomas had three sons; Francis, his successor: 2. Robert, a merchant and alderman of London, (who, by Mary his wife, daughter of alderman Wright, left issue); 3. Leicester, who left Aleppo, unmarried. Likewise seven daughters; Catherine, the wife of Sebright Repington, esq. Isabel, of Francis Merrick, merchant; Mary, of George Bowes, esq. Jane, betrothed to Gilbert Thacker, esq. Dorothy died unmarried, and Bridget was the wife of Thomas, son and heir of George Gresley. He was succeeded by his son sir Francis, who was born September 10, 1608, and married Elizabeth, daughter of sir John Walter, knt. chief baron of the exchequer, with whom he lived sixty-one years, and died December 30, 1696, in the 89th year. She died April 17, 1701, in the 88th year of her age. They had nine children, who all survived their father, viz. 1. Robert, his successor; 2. Francis, who died unmarried; and during the pregnancy of Elizabeth, wife of his nephew, Robert Burdett, esq. (as shewn hereafter) took upon himself the title of Barret; 4. John, who married Anna, daughter of mr. Muggleston, but died without issue; 5. Thomas, who died unmarried Aug. 12, 1698: and four daughters; Dothory, who died unmarried September 4, 1718; Mary born Jan. 23, 1643, and died April 15, 1701; Elizabeth, wife of Edmund Jodrell, esq. and Jane, wife of Edward Hopegood, esq.

Sir Robert, born Jan. 11, 1640, was before his father's death elevated knight of the shire for the county of Warwick, in two parliaments; likewise for the city of Litchfield in 1 and 2 William and Mary, and 7 William III. He died the 13th of Jan. 1715-16, in the 76th year of his age, having had three wives; 1 Mary, only daughter of Gervase Pigot, esq. and coheir of John St. Andrew, esq. who died in the 27th year of her age, Aug. 31, 1688 (leaving an only daughter, Elizabeth, the wife of Charles Jeuens, esq.) 2. Magdalen, daughter of sir Tho. Aston, baronet; and lastly Mary, daughter of mr. Thomas Brome, who survived him without issue; but by Magdalen, his second wife, he had four daughters; Magdalen, Lettuce, and Dothory died infants, and Jane was the wife of John Cotton, son of sir John Cotton, baronet, and died his widow, March 17, 1767. Francis, the eldest, and John, the third son, died infants, and Henry, the youngest, was drowned at Oxford. Robert, second son, was born June 25, 1680, and died eleven days before his father, leaving Elizabeth his wife, daughter of William, lord viscount Tracy, with child, who was delivered the 28th of May, 1716, of a son, named Robert. She had likewise by him six daughters; Elizabeth, who died unmarried; Mary, relict of colonel Richard Pyott, by whom she had one son: Frances: Anne, wife of Wrightson Mundy, esq. and Dorothy, wife of the rev. John Rolleston; Elizabeth surviving her said husband, Robert Burdett, esq. became wife of Robert Holden, esq.

Sir Robert, L. L. D. successor to his grandfather in title and estate, married in November 1739, Elizabeth only daughter of sir Charles Sedly, baronet, who died August 28, 1747; by whom he had two sons and three daughters; 1. Robert Thomas Sedley, who died when four

years old; Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Munday, esq. Francis; John, who died at the age of twenty; and Frances.

Francis, the second son, died before his father in 1794 having had issue by Eleanor, daughter and coheir of William Jones, of Ramsbury manor, Wiltshire, esq. Robert, who died young; Sedley, who died unmarried; Francis, the present baronet; and Elizabeth, who married in 1801 James, brother of sir William Langham, bart.

Sedley was unfortunately drowned in the Rhine, with George-Samuel, the last viscount Montague.—They were uncommonly anxious to pass the famous water-falls of Schaffhausen, which had hitherto been unattempted. The magistrates of the district, having heard of their resolution, and knowing that inevitable destruction would be the consequence of such an attempt, had ordered guards to be placed for the purpose of preventing the execution of it. Such however was the force of their curiosity, that they found means to elude every precaution. Having provided themselves with a flat bottomed punt, as they were about to step into it, lord Montague's servant stopped short, and as it were instinctively seized his master by the collar, declaring that for the moment he should forget the respect of the servant in the duty of the man. His lordship however extricated himself at the expence of part of his collar and neckcloth, and pushed off immediately with his companion. They got over the first fall in safety, and began to shout and wave their handkerchiefs in token of good success. They then passed down the second fall, by far more dangerous than the first; from which time they were never heard of. It is supposed that the boat, hurried by the violence of the cataract, jammed them between two rocks.

Sir Robert married secondly, June 18, 1753. lady Caroline Manners, widow of sir Henry Harper, bart. and daughter of John, duke of Rutland; by which marriage he had no issue. This lady died November 10, 1769. Sir Robert was member for Tamworth, in several parliaments. He died February 22, 1797, and was succeeded by his grandson sir Francis, the present baronet and subject of this memoir.

He was educated at Westminster-school, and after having spent some time at the university where he made great progress in his studies, he, in the year 1789, set off for the continent, and was in Paris at the early part of the revolution. Soon after his return to England, he was by the interest of the duke of Newcastle returned member of parliament for Boroughbridge in Yorkshire. From this he has always been indefatigable in the performance of those duties which attach to a member of the British legislature

Sir Francis's first political act, was an open, avowed, and unreserved declaration of his sentiments, as a friend to a reform in the house of commons. At one of the most respectable and numerous meetings ever held in London, sir Francis readily took the chair, and, in an animated speech, declared his opinion on this subject, and his resolution to pursue it by every legal means.

In a work of this kind we cannot attempt to follow this gentleman in all his parliamentary careers, but must be contented by selecting the most remarkable events by which he has been distinguished.

(To be continued occasionally.)

Field Marshal Brune, Bonaparte's Governor of Hamburgh, &c.

IN 1789, this field-marshal was a journeyman printer, married to a washerwoman. Idle and profligate, his few earnings were spent in debau-

cheries

chery while the labours of his wife prevented him from ſtarving. With all other bankrupts in character as well as in property, he flocked to the revolutionary ſtandard. Here, with an audacity which rebels called courage, but which impunity alone produced, he preached plunder, proſcription, and murder, in a manner even to be noticed by a Marat. This ferocious regicide then ſet up the ſhocking journal, *l' Ami du Peuple*, and made Brune his printer. In this capacity he continued until after the 10th of Auguſt, when the moſt wicked of the grand criminals became members of the Pariſian commune. By it he was nominated an aide-du-camp of Santerre, and he began his military career by heading the banditti who ſeized or deſtroyed all preſſes of loyal newſpapers. During 1793 and 1794, he figured among the ſanguinary generals of the revolutionary army at Lyons, and in la Vendee. In 1795 he was impriſoned as a terroriſt, until Barras and Bonaparte wanted an accomplice in their butchery of the people at Paris, when he was releaſed, and employed in the ſtaff of the army of the interior. When in 1798, French political incendiaries had undermined Helvetic liberty, and the craft and art of an intriguer were, more than the talents and courage of a general, requiſite for giving the death blow to the independence of Switzerland, Brune was advanced to the command of the army ordered on this honourable ſervice. His ſhameful ſucceſs here procured him afterwards the command both in Holland, la Vendee, and in Italy. In all theſe countries he intrigued (by courteſy, negociated,) more than he combated. In fact, he was ordered, in all his military operations, to act according to the opinions of the chief of his ſtaff, his ignorance, as a general, being ſo notorious. Moreau juſtly obſerved of him, at madame Recamier's when, in 1802, he was appointed by Bonaparte an ambaſſador to Turkey, 'That Brune's regimentals of a general only covered the moſt miſchievous and daſtardly of intriguers, while his diploma as an ambaſſador protected the moſt active and dangerous of conſpirators.' But for the rupture with England in 1803, there is no doubt but that he long ago would have revolutionized Turkey.

In laſt Auguſt, when a war between France and Pruſſia was inevitable Talleyrand adviſed his Corſican maſter to order the guilty members of the Iriſh rebel committee at Paris to communicate excluſively with Brune during the miniſter's abſence. Of this our government was informed early in October; but we do not know whether it has come to its knowledge, that Brune when ſelected by Bonaparte for his preſent office, carried with him to Hamburgh the principal members of this infamous committee. As ſuch really is the caſe, miniſters cannot be too much upon their guard in watching the arrivals of paſſengers and letters from Germany.

Brune is the moſt tyrannical of upſtart demagogues, and the moſt mercileſs of revolutionary marauders. With all other French friends of liberty and equality, he confounds egotiſm with patriotiſm, deſpotiſm with freedom; hates and conſpires againſt his ſuperiors, in pillaging and oppreſſing his inferiors. To the *humanity*, *juſtice*, and *liberality* of this man, are now confided the lives, properties, and liberties, of the inhabitants of the north of Germany. He has been accuſed, in works printed on the continent, of having aſſiſted in the horrid maſſacres in Paris in September, 1792; at Lyons, in the autumn, 1793, and in la Vendee, in the ſpring 1794; of having plundered, in 1798, two millions of livres, 80,000l. in Switzerland; of having extorted, in 1799, a ſtill greater ſum in Holland: and of having robbed, in 1800, his maſter Bonaparte of one million

nvres; entrusted to him for seducing or disuniting the royalist chiefs in la Vendee.

We cannot finish this sketch without also remarking the curious revolutionary metamorphosis of a French journeyman printer, under the name of a field marshal, into an inspector-general of German presses and printing-offices*.

British Theatrical Entertainments.

DRURY-LANE, *April* 1.

A NEW grand romantic melo-drama, from the spirited pen of M. G. Lewis, esq. was presented for the first time, under the title of "The WOOD DÆMON; or *The Clock has Struck!*" The principal characters were thus represented:—Hardyknute, mr. De Camp; Guelpho, mr. Penley; Willikind, mr. Dowton; Oswy, mr. Gibbon; Sangrida, mr. Montgomery. Leolyn, miss C. Bristow; Una, mrs. H. Siddons; Clotilda, mrs. Harlowe; Paulina, miss Kelly; Auriel, miss Lacy; Mistress of the Revels, miss Fearon.

In point of splendour, variety, scenery, machinery, and music, this after-piece may rank with the most admired of its species of entertainment: it also contains much interest of the terrific kind, arising from supernatural agency. On its first performance, some very puerile dialogue disgraced it, and occasioned much disapprobation; but the author, with becoming deference to the public opinion, pruned this part very considerably before the second night; the piece was thereby greatly improved, and has since had a continual run with universal approbation. The plot appears to be founded on the story of Lord Ronald, and the Grim White Woman, in mr. Lewis's "TALES OF WONDER."

A miss FEARON made a vocal debût in this piece, and by the power and sweetness of her voice is likely to prove a valuable accession.

9. At the same theatre, a new comedy was brought forward, entitled, "A DAY IN LONDON." It was the work of mr. Cherry, author of the Soldier's Daughter, &c. and the dramatis personæ were as follow:

Jack Melange, mr. Bannister; Captain Import, mr. De Camp; Sir George Dapple, mr. Russell; Mr. Bouvere, mr. H. Siddons; Sir Sampson Import, mr. Cherry; Briers, mr. Raymond; Issachar, mr. Wewitzer; Ponder, mr. Maddocks; Jones, mr. Palmer; Serjeant O'Sullivan, mr. Johnstone; Farmer Sickle, mr. Dowton; Willow, mr. Bartley. Lady Mary Import, miss Duncan; Mrs. Sickle, miss Mellon; Jane, miss Boyce; Maria, miss Ray; Dolly, mrs. Scott; Bar-maid, miss Tidswell.

The intention of the author, is to shew the folly of old men marrying young wives, and the unpleasant situations it naturally produces. This play, though inferior to the Soldier's Daughter, was not ill written, nor altogether without wit and point; but there were also more characters than seemed necessary to the plot; the attention of the audience was thereby injudiciously diverted from the main points, and the effect was much weakened. The conclusion of the second act, where Sickle, on surprising his wife in the arms of a lover, declares that he will not believe his sight, but turns on his heel, and rushes from them, was considered as very unnatural, and excited disapprobation. In the last act, the marks of dissatisfaction were increased by the strange manner in which the several persons of the drama were brought together.

After

NOTE.

* The above, and many more particulars of this revolutionary upstart, may be read in Dictionnaire Biographique and Dictionnaire des Jacobins, art. Brune.

After the third night, mr. Cherry, with a laudable attention to the evident wiſh of the audience, withdrew the comedy from the ſtage: a mark of reſpect which, we are ſure, will not operate to his prejudice on the occaſion of any future drama that he may produce.

Covent-garden, April 10. A muſical piece in two acts, called "WHISTLE FOR IT," was preſented. It is from the pen of a Mr. Lambe, and the characters were thus caſt:——

Count Harlowitz, mr. Incledon; Oſbert, mr. C. Kemble; Lieutenant, mr. Jefferies; Rupert, mr. Taylor; Wolſtan, mr. King; Conrad, mr. Denman; Andrew, mr. Fawcett; Carola, miſs Bolton; Phillida, mrs. Liſton.

The ſcene lies in Germany, and the leading features are as follow:——

The piece commences with a view of the Black Foreſt, wherein count Harlowitz and a choſen band of warriors are in the act of ſearching for the cave of the banditti. The count, juſt returned from a glorious campaign, has gallantly offered his ſervices to deſtroy, or ſecure, theſe deſperate maurauders. In the next ſcene appear the captain of the banditti, and his firſt lieutenant.—The converſation, until the arrival of the gang, turns upon a late diviſion of plunder, the exploits of the preceding day, and their intended operations on the following evening. The robbers, by means of their emiſſaries, learn that the king has diſpatched a powerful body to ſecure them, and to deſtroy their retreat. A council of war is held, and a plan is laid in conſequence; by means of which count Harlowitz is ſurpriſed by the captain of the banditti, and conveyed to the cave of the robbers. In ſearching the count, they take from his perſon a whiſtle, which is placed on a ſhelf within his reach, if he were not manacled. On this whiſtle depends his life. By a previouſly formed agreement with his troop, it was ſettled, that if any unfortunate adventure occurred, by which he might be ſeparated from them, he had only to uſe his whiſtle; by means of which they would know of the place of his confinement, and fly to his reſcue.—In this ſcene mr. Fawcett perſonifies the character of a ſilly clown, who was formerly a priſoner, but is now kept as a ſervant to attend the robbers. The count employs many ſtratagems to induce the clown to reſtore him his whiſtle. This application the clown refuſes to aſſent to. The count next deſcribes the excellencies of his whiſtle, and endeavours to perſuade him to try its effect. This Andrew at laſt agrees to, and from his queer grimace, and unſucceſsful efforts, much laughter and applauſe are excited. The clown finally ſucceeds—the count's troop appears—and the robbers are ſurpriſed and ſecured.

This piece had been brought forward two years ago in the marquis of Abercorn's private theatre at Stanmore Priory; and having been very favourably received there, it came before the town under flattering auſpices. As a vehicle for muſic, it furniſhed Incledon with an opportunity of diſplaying the powers of his voice to advantage; and the vivacity of Fawcett's acting gave ſome *eclat* to a ſpecies of humour which in other hands would have been non-effective. Little Tyler—mrs. Liſton we mean—and miſs Bolton exerted themſelves much in favour of the author; but we do not think the farce will ever be a permanent favourite.

16. At the above theatre was exhibited, for the firſt time, a ſerio-comic ballet of action, (from Mother Gooſe's Tales,) entitled "OGRE AND LITTLE THUMB; or, *The Seven League Boots.*" The overture and muſic by mr. W. Ware.

DRA-

DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

Anthropophagos, the Ogre, mr. Farley; his five ſons, maſter Benſon, maſter Goodwin, maſter Morelli, maſter Seaſe, maſter Sutton; Count Manfredi, mr. Bologna, jun. Orlando, his friend, mr. Taylor; Scamperini, the count's ſervant, mr. Grimaldi; Will o'the Wiſp and Jack-a-Lantern, agents of the Ogre, mr. King and mr. Treby; Gaffer Thumb, the poor faggot-maker, mr. L. Bologna; Little Thumb, miſs Briſtow, being her firſt appearance; Dame Thumb, mrs. St. Leger; Marian, her daughter, miſs Searle.

The muſic (particularly the overture) and the ſcenery merit high commendation; but the ſtory of Little Thumb, contemptible enough in itſelf, is ſo wretchedly managed, as to weary, inſtead of intereſting the ſpectator. The performance was accompanied with ſtrong marks of cenſure. We can only regret that the vaſt expence which the proprietors muſt have beſtowed on this piece, had not been employed on ſomething more worthy of approbation. There is a beautiful ſcene of a real cataract of water, which we are told runs nine tuns a minute, and the coſt of which ſome of the newſpapers have ſtated at 1200l.! The performers, acquitted themſelves with zeal, though they had little opportunity of manifeſting their abilities.

Opera-houſe, March 16.—This evening a concert took place at the great rooom in this theatre, for the benefit of Pio Cianchettini, a child ſeven years of age, born in this country of foreign parents. This boy has diſtinguiſhed himſelf by his performance on the piano-forte in many places on the continent, and acquired the title of 'Mozart Britannicus.' He is one of thoſe few inſtances of early powers, that as a performer and a compoſer, deſerve the attention of the public; and he has been endowed by nature with a very extraordinary genius for muſic. He not only plays with great execution, but with ſuch taſte and expreſſion as cannot be taught, but muſt reſult from himſelf. He generally excited wonder, and afforded pleaſure to auditors fully able to appreciate his merits.

April 14.—This evening a new hiſtorical ballet, called *Le Siege de Troye*, was produced; it was got up under the direction of m. Roſſi, the deſign and execution of which do him much credit.

The firſt ſcene commences with a view of the Wooden Horſe; the hiſtorical facts follow with the greateſt preciſion, accompanied with the moſt beautiful ſcenery, the fineſt muſic, and executed by the moſt captivating ballet company perhaps in the world. Andromache, the fair widow of Hector, received much intereſt from the faſcinating Pariſot. Mademoiſelle Nora, from the royal theatre, Liſbon, made her *debut* in the part of Creuſa, the wife of Eneas, and received the moſt flattering reception. Madame Le Preſle was the fair Helen, and miſs Cranfield, Venus. The ſcene where the burning of Troy is introduced, was honoured with reiterated plaudits.

April 16.—This evening madame Catalini gave, for her benefit, *La Morte di Mithridate*, by Portogallo, an opera, which combines more muſical beauties for a performer than any that we know, and it derived new charms from her power and taſte. The difficulties ſhe has to execute, and the graceful manner in which ſhe triumphed over them, were ſources of high gratification to the ſkilful few; and her exquiſite delicacy and emotion in the touching paſſages, equally affected the untutored multitude. This was peculiarly felt in the influence over the heart, which ſhe obtained in the ſecond act—"*Per queſta amara*

It produced a rapturous burſt of applauſe; and, at the end of it, a chaplet of laurel, with a copy of verſes, was flung on the ſtage from one of the upper boxes. The ſpectators of our theatres are not accuſtomed to this kind of compliment, and though a number of voices in the pit (chiefly foreigners) called out to crown her with the laurel, the ceremony did not take place.

THEATRICAL CHIT CHAT.

Mrs. Billington is returned to London from her ruſtication in Shropſhire. It is her determination not to make any engagement this ſeaſon—"two ſtars cannot move in the ſame ſphere." Madame Catalani makes a tour in the interior during the ſummer.

Mrs. H. Johnſton, is gone, we hear, to delight the faſhionables of Bath with her delightful acting. We could have more rejoiced if it had been a "*free viſitation.*"

Great complaints are made by mr. G. Maddocks againſt the actors in *Whiſtle for it*. He ſays that it was not played *ſo* at the Priory—we believe him! but he adds, that *they* do it in a heavy, clumſy way—then every body *looks at him*, and laughs.

Opera Dreſſes.

MADAME CATALANI. A long flowing *veſt* and drapery of crimſon velvet, lined with white ſarſnet, and richly ornamented with a Turkiſh border, in gold; the drapery drawn through a *ceſtus*, formed of gold and ſapphire, and terminated with a large gold taſſel; confined in front of the right ſhoulder with a broach to correſpond, from whence flows another point of the veſt, finiſhed with a ſimilar taſſel. A double *tunique*, or under dreſs, of French net, with looſe long ſleeves, and round boſom, cut low, ſpotted, and moſt ſplendidly embroidered in gold at the bottom. White ſatin petticoat embroidered to correſpond. A Grecian diadem of gold, and brilliants. A ſquare Bruſſels veil of the moſt tranſparent texture, lightly embroidered in gold, fixed at the back of the diadem, and flowing negligently over the left arm. Hair cloſe cropt behind, falling in irregular corkſcrew ringlets in front and on the ſides. The necklace, one row of fine brilliants, ſet tranſparent, and faſtened in the centre with a long ſquare broach of ſapphire in gold; ear-rings to correſpond. White ſatin ſhoes, trimmed, and embroidered at the toes, in gold.

SELECT SENTENCES.

THERE is a ſimilitude between the cultivation of a young tender mind, and that of a garden. The ſame precautions are neceſſary to be uſed. Even the rough gardener perceives how much better he ſucceeds, when he plants the young ſhrub with a tender hand; and, inſtead of tearing by force the noxious weed that entwines the tender twig, he gently lops it off, and takes infinite pains throughout not to deſtroy, where it is his intention to improve. The reaſon why flatterers are better received than real friends is, becauſe they endeavour to win upon their prey by ſoftneſs and perſuaſion, which gains the confidence of the deluded, and by that means to give power to deſtroy. Why is not the ſame aſſiduity and gentle perſuaſion uſed by real friends? For, though the motives are diametrically oppoſite, yet the ſame means would undoubtedly produce the deſired effect.

Je Viens, A French Tale. (*Concluded from page 232.*)

'*WHAT* would not be proper for a gentleman to grant, would not be proper for a gentleman to aſk: but not to treſpaſs on your patience, I will briefly tell you the cauſe of my giving you this preſent trouble.' Alphonſe then related his adventure with the young lady, and alſo his encounter with the old woman, 'And now, ſir,' continued he, 'can you give me any information whereby I may be likely to diſcover my unknown fair?' 'If it were in my power,' returned mr. d'Albert, 'I ſhould be happy to do it, but unfortunately I have not the leaſt clue to guide your ſearch.' 'Can you not inform me in what part of England mrs. Norton reſides? She ſent a letter to ſome family here.' 'She did, it is true, but ſhe gave not the leaſt hint of her reſidence.' 'I beg your pardon, ſir, for the trouble I give, but pray were her ſcholars French or Engliſh?' 'They were both, ſir: the Engliſh ladies were ſent for by their friends after mrs. Norton had arrived in England.'

Alphonſe thus finding all his hopes of intelligence fruſtrated, could not forbear execrating the unfortunate ſchool-miſtreſs, whoſe imprudence was the cauſe of his preſent vexation. 'Do not,' ſaid mr. d'Albert, 'thus yield yourſelf a ſlave to paſſion, and curſe a woman who is more to be pitied than blamed: the degree of liberty the ladies enjoyed was not more than in England they might have done with ſafety; in an unfrequented place like this, there appeared no danger in permitting an occaſional ramble for a mile or two, and it is not always that the ſacred walls of a convent can ſecure thoſe within them from the ſtratagems of men.' Alphonſe made ſome apologies for his warmth of diſpoſition, and after thanking mr. d'Albert for his civility, was about taking his leave; this the gentleman would not permit; it was late, and Alphonſe was preſſed to ſtay the night. The oddneſs of the adventure he had juſt heard, intereſted mr. d'Albert, and he wiſhed to be better acquainted with the hero of it.

The evening paſſed agreeably, the hoſt and the gueſt equally pleaſed with each other; the female part of the family joined them at ſupper; the converſation ſoon became animated, and when Alphonſe retired to the apartment aſſigned him, he found his ſpirits much better than when he firſt entered the houſe; but this did not continue long; he was no ſooner alone than the image of his loſt miſtreſs preſented itſelf to his view, with all the graces which had at firſt won his heart; then the idea that he might never find her, diſtracted his brain, and deſtroyed his reſt, ſo that the morning dawned before the unhappy Alphonſe forgot his ſorrows in the oblivion of ſleep. The ſlumbers of a lover are generally broken: ſuch was the caſe with our hero, who aroſe before eight o'clock, pleaſing himſelf with the idea that he might now be in the very apartment formerly occupied by *Perdita*, for ſo he had named his miſtreſs: under this impreſſion he ſought every crevice of the room, hoping he might diſcover ſome writing which might tend to elucidate the myſtery; but his ſearch was vain, no tender lines appeared on the walls, no concealed door was diſcovered, and he attended the ſummons to breakfaſt with a degree of chagrin he could ſcarcely conceal.

Mr. d'Albert eaſily diſcovered by his countenance the ſituation of his mind, and while he could not forbear ſmiling at the romanticity of his paſſion, he encouraged him to hope. 'Madame d'Albert,' ſaid he, 'was placed in a convent by her guardian with a view to prevent my obtaining her hand; the name of the convent was concealed from me; I did not ſo much as know whether ſhe were in France, Italy, Spain, or Portugal: for three years, habited as a pilgrim, I wandered in ſearch of her; I permitted my beard to grow to a patriarchal length, and ſo completely diſguiſed myſelf that I was in no danger of being detected. I inſinuated myſelf into every convent, and learned not a few intrigues carried

on in thoſe holy places. At length when I was on the point of yielding to deſpair, I was informed by a portreſs in Spain, that in a few days a novice was going to take the veil; I inquired the name of the lady, and heard with an undeſcribable mixture of joy and grief, that it was Maria de ——. The portreſs was a good natured woman, and after much perſuaſion and ſome preſents, I prevailed on her to carry a letter to my beloved; this ſhe did, and alſo, on my promiſing her a bottle of *eau de vie*, ſhe engaged to contrive an interview that ſame night. I took care to provide a chaiſe, and a couple of ſtout fellows to defend us in caſe of a purſuit, for I had a ſtrong preſentiment that I ſhould effect the eſcape of my charmer. At midnight I repaired to the portreſs, taking with me the liquor, in which I had infuſed a tincture that I knew would lull her vigilance to reſt.—The good lady brought me my fair one and then drank off a bumper, wiſhing us happineſs, and in a few minutes was in a profound ſleep. I haſtily threw her veil over my Maria, and we left the convent, ſcarcely breathing for fear. We took the road to Portugal, arrived there without any accident, and were ſoon united in the holy bands of matrimony.'

'Ah, ſir,' ſaid Alphonſe.' 'you were a happy man; I fear I ſhall not be ſo fortunate.' Mr. d'Albert rallied him on his fears, exhorted him not to ſuffer his ſpirits to ſink, aad after mutual profeſſions of friendſhip, our hero left the hoſpitable manſion of mr. d'Albert. Little pleaſed with the ſucceſs of his inquiry, Alphonſe began his journey to Paris, where he arrived without any adventure, and was received with the greateſt affection by his family: for ſome days he permitted himſelf to be tolerably happy, but *Perdita* was not an object to be long forgotten, and he again began to deviſe means to diſcover her: with this view he frequented every place of amuſement, both public and private. He was ſoon conſidered as a man of ſpirit, and became a great favourite with the ladies. 'The chevalier,' would they ſay, 'is a very gallant man; he dances with one, kiſſes one's hand, bows and ſighs, but never ſays any thing particular.' This laſt clauſe was ſomewhat of an innuendo to the fair ones; they little thought that while he was paying them ſo much civility, he was in ſearch of a loſt miſtreſs; and when he ſo politely kiſſed their hands, it was only that he might have an opportunity of diſcovering if they wore the ring on which his happineſs depended. Thus vainly employed, one month paſſed away after another without any appearance of diſcovering *Perdita*: he confided the ſecret to a few young men, who undertook to aſſiſt in the ſearch; they purſued the ſame methods as himſelf, and kiſſing hands ſoon became a neceſſary piece of etiquette.

Sometimes he thought of inſerting an advertiſement in the public papers ſhe might underſtand, tho' to every one elſe it ſhould be inexplicable; but from this he was deterred by the recollection of the violence which had extorted the oath. 'She can have no ſentiment for me but fear,' thought the unhappy Alphonſe: 'fear compelled her to take the oath, and fear would now induce her to conceal herſelf from me, if ſhe knew I were in ſearch of her.' This expedient was therefore laid aſide, and he determined if, at the expiration of three months, he had not found her, to purſue the ſearch in England, for it was probable ſhe might be an Engliſh lady. Having made this determination, he felt his mind eaſier, and prepared to pay a viſit to an uncle who reſided about ſeventy miles diſtant from Paris.

It was a beautiful morning in autumn when Alphonſe attended by his ſervant, began his route to his uncle's; the charming ſcenery delighted him, and it was not till near noon that he began to ſigh for Perdita. The ſun was now unſufferably hot: an inn appeared in view, and thither Alphonſe bent his way, that he might reſt till the heat was over. The innkeeper's daughter, a very handſome girl, brought in ſome refreſhments: as ſhe was placing them, Alphonſe took her hand, and kiſſed it

with the moſt profound reſpect; the girl bluſhed, and continued arranging the table, while Alphonſe took up a paper and began reading, apparently forgetting there was a girl in the room. 'The gentleman,' thought Alice, 'muſt be a little deranged.' The circumſtance was related at the table d'hôte with much exaggeration, and furniſhed the gueſts with a ſubject of mirth and converſation.

The heat of the day was over, Alphonſe again ſet forward on his journey; he had not proceeded far, when he beheld a carriage approach at full ſpeed, the horſes appeared frightened, the poſtillion had no power over them, and Alphonſe haſtened forward to endeavour to ſtop their career; at ſight of Alphonſe they began to plunge and rear; the poſtillion was thrown to ſome diſtance, the carriage was overturned, the axle tree broken, one horſe was killed on the ſpot, and the other lay panting, unable to riſe. Alphonſe and his ſervant haſted to render what aſſiſtance they could to the unfortunate travellers; an elderly gentleman, and a lady who called him father, were taken from the carriage, very little hurt, but a younger lady who had borne the weight of theſe two, was lifted up, apparently lifeleſs. Alphonſe threw aſide her veil to admit the air, and beheld a face at once beautiful and intereſting, tho' overſpread with the pallid hue of death. Ever intent on the object neareſt his heart, he haſtily examined her hands: no ring appeared, and for the firſt time Alphonſe regretted his oath. The uſual methods of recovery were tried without ſucceſs; no ſigns of life appeared, and Alphonſe, with an aching heart, offered to conduct the ſtrangers to the inn he had juſt left. He then, taking the lady in his arms, (whoſe weight he ſcarcely felt,) proceeded before them, while the ſervants of the different parties, leading horſes, carrying baggage, &c. brought up the rear of this mournful proceſſion. They ſoon arrived at the inn; a ſurgeon was immediately ſent for, who, after feeling the pulſe of the lady for ſome minutes, declared that life was not extinct; he judged it neceſſary to take a little blood, which operation had a happy effect, a deep ſigh announcing the return of animation. Alphonſe now retired, leaving the lady to the care of her relations: he walked down to the inn-yard: the wreck of the carriage was juſt arrived with the poſtillion, who was very much bruiſed: the gentleman's valet was relating the cauſe of their journey, 'We were taking mademoiſelle Louiſe to a convent, the convent of Mercy too they called it; but for my part, I think it a moſt unmerciful piece of buſineſs. My poor dear young lady begged and prayed on her knees not to be ſhut up in a convent, but my maſter would not hear her: ſhe muſt either marry a man old enough to be her father, or ſhe muſt go and be a nun: even madame Neufville, her own ſiſter, had no pity for her, but told her ſhe ought to be obedient to her father. I thought when we ſet out no good would come of it: mademoiſelle trembled ſo, ſhe was obliged to be lifted into the carriage, and when ſhe loſt ſight of the houſe ſhe fainted away: they'll repent of their cruelty when it's too late, they will.'

'Is it poſſible,' ſaid Alphonſe, 'they can wiſh ſuch a lovely creature as that to be ſhut up for life? What can be their motive?' 'Why, ſir, my young lady has refuſed ſeveral very good offers of marriage, which affronted my maſter ſo much, that he ſwore if ſhe did not accept the next, whoever it might be, he would ſhut her up for life.' 'Poor girl,' ſaid Alphonſe, 'perhaps her heart is ſecretly engaged.' 'I believe it may, ſir, for ſhe is often very melancholy, and ſighs as if her heart would break, and ſometimes I've ſeen her in tears when ſhe thought nobody ſaw her. She's a ſweet girl, and I wiſh ſome handſome gentleman of ſpirit would run away with

with her, and ſave her from a convent.' Alphonſe ſmiled at the concluſion of the ſpeech, and walked away, meditating how he could befriend the unfortunate fair: he determined at all events to remain at the inn till ſhe was recovered, that he might, if an opportunity offered, have it in his power to ſerve her. The next day ſhe was conſiderably better, and on the third he was admitted into her preſence. She thanked him for the care he had taken of her with much elegance, and a degree of confuſion that rendered her more charming. Madame Neufville requeſting Alphonſe to favour them with his company for the evening, he took his ſeat, and had an opportunity of examining the beautiful features of Louiſe: the more he gazed, the more he regretted his raſh oath, and ſighed when he reflected that probably the lady whom he had compelled to ſwear, might be in the ſame ſituation as Louiſe, forced to enter a convent, or to forſwear herſelf. 'This,' thought he, 'is the wretched conſequence of raſh oaths'. The evening paſſed pleaſantly in the company of Louiſe; the convent was not once mentioned, and Alphonſe hoped that the accident might have induced mr. Augarde to have laid aſide the project, but in this he was miſtaken: the next day he was invited to dine with them, and was informed that on the following morning they ſhould recommence their journey to the convent of Mercy. Alphonſe gave a deep ſigh at the intelligence, which was echoed back by Louiſe.' 'Ah, ſigh, my dear ſiſter,' ſaid madame Neufville, 'the more you ſigh when you are a nun the better: you will be canonized at your death, and we ſhall have ſainte Louiſe.' 'She will moſt likely be beatified before you are out of purgatory,' ſaid Alphonſe: madame Neufville coloured, while Louiſe intreated by her looks that Alphonſe would not offend her ſiſter: he ſmiled acquieſcence, and was preſſing her hand to his lips, when the long ſought for ring met his eye; he ſunk at her knees, exclaiming in rapture too great for utterance, '*Je ſuis venu, Souvenez vous de moi?*' 'Oh! I could never forget,' ſighed the beautiful maid, as ſhe ſunk lifeleſs in his arms. 'What's all this about,' exclaimed mr. Augarde. Alphonſe was inſenſible to every object but Louiſe, whom he feared he had only found to loſe for ever. 'I ſuppoſe,' ſaid madame Neufville, 'you are old friends; you ſeem tolerably well acquainted,' Louiſe was now recovering; mr. Augarde gazed upon her and Alphonſe, with an air of anxiety. 'Young man,' ſaid he, 'I muſt have an explanation of your conduct; you appear acquainted with Louiſe; relate to me all the particulars of your intimacy, and if I find you a man of honour, and you are attached to each other, I give my free conſent to your union; I only wiſh to ſee my child happy.' A vermillion bluſh overſpread the cheeks of Louiſe, while Alphonſe, with the ingenuouſneſs natural to his character, related their firſt rencounter, and his ſubſequent ſearch and reſolution of viſiting England in queſt of his unknown fair, concluding with relating the cauſe of his being on the road, which had happily conducted him to mr. Augarde's aſſiſtance, and finally the incident of the ring, which had in one moment relieved him from a ſtate of uncertainty that was nearly inſupportable, and left him nothing to wiſh but the *free acceptance* of Louiſe, and the conſent of mr. Augarde to their marriage. 'You have my conſent,' ſaid mr. Augarde, 'but what ſays my girl? ſpeak my Louiſe: '*In ſweet diſorder loſt, ſhe bluſh'd conſent,*' while madame Neufville, with much good humour, congratulated them on the happy termination of the mutual anxiety which had ſo long imbittered the exiſtence of both.

Inſtead

Instead of proceeding to the convent of Mercy, they, the next day, took the road to Paris, where they arrived towards evening. Alphonse conducted them to the hotel of his father, the marquis de ———, where they were received with the courtesy due to their appearance and introduction. Alphonse was again the hero of his own tale, which occasioned much pleasantry. The marquis consented to the proposed union, and the relations and friends of both parties, (among whom mr. d'Albert was not forgotten) were invited to be present at the ceremony. The ladies could not sufficiently admire the faithfulness of Alphonse, who though he could have broken his rash oath without detection, had ever held it sacred, and preserved his heart for her who they all confessed was worthy of the gift. If the fidelity of Alphonse was admired by the ladies, not less so was that of Louise by the gentlemen: she had had difficulties to encounter to which Alphonse had been a stranger; persecuted by offended relations, and threatened with the gloom of a cloister, she had still preserved the oath without violation in any of its parts, and they all rejoiced at the éclaircissement which had taken place.

The happy morn which beheld the union of this faithful pair, was ushered in with the demonstrations of joy usual on such occasions. The priest who performed the ceremony was a venerable old man, and while he gave his benediction to the happy couple, he with great solemnity warned the surrounding friends from making rash vows. 'Providence,' he observed, 'had in the present instance permitted that these two should come together, but had it been otherwise, Louise must have spent her life in a cloister, while Alphonse must have dragged on a wretched existence, conscious that it was a state in which he had precipated himself by presumption and folly.'

Deeply affected, the company retired from the chapel, attended by a numerous train of peasantry, who were assembled to rejoice in the general joy; fifty young maidens received marriage portions, and all united in blessing the nuptials of Alphonse and Louise.

W. I. M.

Account of the celebrated Lady Hamilton. K. M. *(Concluded from page 198)*

IT was upon this occasion that the protection of England, and the friendship of her ambassadress, were eminently conspicuous. A British man of war, in addition to an immense treasure, conveyed the royal family to Sicily. Lady Hamilton exerted herself at this critical period, with an equal degree of resolution, dexterity, and success. According to some, in the disguise of a sailor; and if we are to believe others, in that of a *poissarde*; her ladyship not only contrived to get all their wealth, as well as the most precious pictures, on board the British admiral lord Nelson's ship, but also assisted greatly in extricating the royal family from a capital in insurrection, and a populace inflamed to such a pitch of madness, as to be ready to sacrifice them to their vengeance.

During the storm that occurred in their passage to Palermo, and when the queen was abandoned by all the ladies of her court, this faithful Englishwoman not only accompanied but attended on her majesty, and it was in her arms, that one of the children, overcome with fatigue and affright, perished. When, in consequence of a sudden change in the affairs of France, Naples was restored to its sovereign, lady Hamilton also repaired thither, and procured all the females in the capital to sign a petition to the queen, earnestly entreating her return, which was soon after complied with.

To

To depict the horrid as well as impolitic butchery (for it cannot be designated by the common name of an *execution*) that enſued, would exceed the ſpace deſtined for this article; but it may not be improper to mention in this place, that a literary female has been groſsly impoſed upon in many particulars, as appears evident from her account of that terrible cataſtrophe. During moſt of the ſcenes mentioned by her, lady Hamilton was abſent, and never appeared in any of them, but in the amiable character of a mediatrix. In reſpect to one of the perſons * who ſuffered upon this occaſion, and to whoſe conduct during the laſt awful period of his exiſtence, it is impoſſible to refuſe our admiration, ſhe repeatedly offered an aſylum that would have prevented that death which awaited him, and inſtead of rejoicing like a fiend at the puniſhment of ſo many victims, ſhe wept at the impolicy and injuſtice of the meaſure. The character of her ladyſhip, however, has been fully reſcued from this palpable miſrepreſentation, by a gentleman who had acceſs to the firſt ſources of knowledge, and not only peruſed all the original documents, but was acquainted with thoſe beſt calculated to afford genuine information.†

But it was not to the royal family of Naples alone that lady Hamilton proved uſeful, for during her long reſidence in Italy, ſhe was always attentive to the intereſts of that country where ſhe was born, and of which her huſband, the good and amiable ſir William, was the repreſentative. When the Malteſe roſe againſt the French, and invoked the aſſiſtance of Great Britain, they applied to Naples for corn, and declared that they muſt give up the conteſt, unleſs they were furniſhed with an immediate ſupply of proviſions. In this critical ſituation of affairs, the ambaſſadreſs interceded with the queen, and her majeſty immediately purchaſed, out of her own private purſe, two felluccas laden with wheat, which were expedited the day after the arrival of the deputies. It was her ladyſhip alſo who afforded the firſt, and moſt authentic information to the Britiſh cabinet, that the king of Spain was about to abandon the coalition, make peace with France, and declare war againſt Great Britain.—It is more eaſy to deſcribe than to eſtimate the value of ſuch intelligence, more eſpecially when it is recollected, that it was obtained through the friendſhip of a great perſonage, and, unlike operations of this kind, in general, did not coſt the nation a ducat.

At length, after a reſidence of more than thirty years on the part of ſir William, and about fourteen on that of lady Hamilton, they reviſited their native country. Notwithſtanding his long ſojourn at Naples, this gentleman had not been enriched by his diplomatic miſſion; and ſo little were his repreſentations attended to by the miniſters who then preſided over our councils, that they refuſed him the paltry boon, ſo richly merited by his lady's own exertions, of a ſmall reverſionary annuity, in caſe ſhe ſhould ſurvive him.

Soon after their return, lady Hamilton perceiving that in conſequence of the enhanced price of every thing in the country, ſir William would find ſome difficulty in living in a manner ſuitable to his birth and rank in England, generouſly determined to ſacrifice what is uſually prized by female vanity, as the firſt of all luxuries, to his accommodation. Her ladyſhip, accordingly parted with all her jewels, by means of which, ſhe obtained about three thouſand pounds, and with this ſum, purchaſed the leaſe and furniture of a noble houſe in Piccadilly, where her huſband,

overpowered

NOTES.

* Cerillo, the phyſician to the court.

† See the hiſtory of the late war, vol. ii.

overpowered by the rigour of the climate, to which he had not been accuſtomed ſince his youth, died in her arms, and with his laſt breath, offered up prayers for her future happineſs and proſperity!

What has been already ſaid chiefly indicates the qualities of the head and heart; it may be, therefore, neceſſary to mention ſomething of the accompliſhments of the ſubject of theſe memoirs. A long reſidence in Italy has enabled lady Hamilton to acquire a great preciſion in the charming language of that country, and at the ſame time to improve her voice and taſte for muſic, both of which are exquiſite. By a wonderful flexibility of muſcles, and a correſponding pliability of limbs, ſhe has been enabled to aſſume a variety of forms, ſo as either to imitate a Diana attired as a huntreſs; a Venus retiring gracefully from the gaze of the bewitched beholder; or a Madona, exciting the reverence and admiration of the enraptured devotee.* The writer of this article has beheld her uniting the delicacy of the one ſex, with the maſculine knowledge of the other, in converſation, and has glanced over ſome lines of poetry which appeared worthy of commemoration.

It may not be unneceſſary to add, that in conſequence of the timely and energetic aſſiſtance afforded to the Malteſe, the late emperor Paul, among whoſe faults we cannot reckon that of ingratitude, propoſed a noble remuneration for the two diſtinguiſhed females who exerted themſelves on the occaſion; for while to one he reſtored that diadem which her huſband had loſt, he decorated the breaſt of the other with the croſs of the ancient order of St. John of Jeruſalem.

N O T E.

* See a work entitled 'Lady Hamilton's Attitudes,' drawn at Naples by F. Rebberg, and engraved by Piroli.

Biographical Memoirs of Sir Thomas Louis, Bart. K. M. T. and K. S. F. Rear-Amiral of the White Squadron. (Concluded from page 197.)

ON the preceding day, ſhe failed from Cork, with the Charon, Licorne, and Huſſar frigates, and a large convoy; the whole of which not being able to get out of the harbour on that day, captain Macbride directed the Licorne and Huſſar to remain off the entrance, for the purpoſe of haſtening the reſt; whilſt the Bienfaiſant, with the Charon, lay to in the offing with thoſe which were already out. At daylight, on the morning of the 13th, the Bienfaiſant found herſelf driven down as far as the Old Head of Kinſale; when ſhe obſerved a large ſhip, which afterwards proved to be le Comte d'Artois, of 64 guns, and 644 men, fitted out by a ſociety in France, in chaſe of ſome of the convoy. Captain Macbride, in his turn, immediately gave chaſe; and, at half paſt ſeven A. M. came up with le Comte d' Artois, which had hoiſted Engliſh colours. The French commander, le chevalier de Clonard, appeared determined to reſerve his fire. Captain Macbride followed his example; and, ranging up within piſtol ſhot, entered into ſome converſation with the enemy. By this time the Bienfaiſant had got ſo far on the Frenchman's bow, that neither his guns forward, nor thoſe of the Bienfaiſant which were aft, could be brought to bear. In this ſituation, captain Macbride, having fully indentified le Comte d'Artois as an enemy, notwithſtanding the ſtill diſplayed Engliſh colours, ordered the marines on his poop to fire. Le chevalier now hoiſted his proper flag, and briſkly returned the fire; the engagement, on both ſides, commencing with muſketry. During the interval which elapſed before captain Macbride

Macbride could regulate his ſails and place his ſhip in the poſition that he wiſhed, the enemy made a daring, but unſucceſsful attempt to board him. The engagement which enſued laſted for an hour and ten minutes; at the expiration of which le comte d' Artois ſurrendered, having ſuſtained a loſs of 21 killed, and 35 wounded; her rigging, maſts, and yards, having alſo been very much injured. Le chevalier de Clonard himſelf was ſlightly wounded. Compared with this, the loſs of the Bienfaiſant was very trivial; having only 3 killed, and 22 wounded, moſt of them in a very ſlight degree. The Charon came up toward the cloſe of the action, but was ſo trivially concerned in it, as to have had only one man ſlightly wounded.

Le *Comte* d'Artois was not deſtined to be a *ſolitary* captive; for, in the courſe of the following month (September) the Bienfaiſant alſo captured la *Comteſſe* d'Artois, another French privateer.

At the cloſe of the year 1780, captain Macbride having been removed into the Artois frigate, of 44 guns, which had been taken from the French a few months before, lieutenant Louis was particularly applied for by his old commander, with whom he accordingly went. L'Artois was conſidered to be, at that time, the fineſt veſſel of her claſs in the world; but lieutenant Louis had not belonged to her above two months, when, early in 1781, on the earneſt recommendation of his gallant captain, he had the pleaſure of being promoted to the rank of commander, in the Mackworth, armed ſhip. In this veſſel he continued during the whole of 1781, giving convoy to the trade from Plymouth to the Briſtol channel, and back, in company with the lady Mackworth, another armed ſhip.

Captain Louis, in the year 1782, was ſent to Ireland, as the regulating officer at Sligo, and at Cork, where he raiſed 5000 of the men whom the Iriſh parliament had voted for the uſe of government. He remained on that ſervice until the 20th or 22d of January, 1783, when he was promoted to the rank of poſt captain, by admiral Keppel, juſt at the concluſion of the American war.

A long and tedious ſeaſon of inactivity now enſued; as, in conſequence of the peace, captain Louis remained upon half-pay until the breaking out of the laſt war—which may not inaptly be termed the war of the revolution—in 1793. At that period, it muſt have been highly gratifying to his feelings, to find himſelf again ſelected by his old commander, admiral Macbride, to be his captain, in the Quebec, of 32 guns, on the Downs ſtation.

Captain Louis was afterwards appointed to the Cumberland, of 74 guns. During the time of peace, he had reſided in the vicinity of Torbay; and, ſo much was he reſpected by every perſon, and beloved by every ſeaman in that neighbourhood, that he was enabled to man the Cumberland almoſt entirely with volunteers, who, from perſonal attachment, were anxious to place themſelves under his command.

He did not, we believe, remain long in the Cumberland: as, in the ſpring of 1794, we find him commanding the Minotaur, a new 74 gun ſhip, under the orders of rear-admiral Montagu, in the channel fleet. Admiral Macbride afterwards hoiſted his flag on board of the Minotaur, which, during the year, was chiefly employed in cruiſing off the coaſt of France.

In the month of February, 1795, captain Louis, ſtill in the Minotaur, was employed in the fleet under the command of earl Howe, which eſcorted the Eaſt and Weſt India, and other convoys, clear of the channel,

and

and afterwards cruiſed off Breſt and in the bay.

Early in 1796, captain Louis proceeded to the Weſt Indies, where he arrived in March, with a convoy. He returned to England almoſt immediately, giving convoy to a very large fleet of merchantmen. His ſkilful and attentive conduct, on this occaſion, had nearly loſt that honorary compenſation to which it was moſt highly entitled; for, as many of the principal commanders were known to be on terms of friendly intimacy with him, they refrained, from motives of delicacy, to propoſe the vote of thanks, which, when merited, it is uſual to preſent for ſuch ſervice. At length, however, the other commanders came forward, and an unanimous vote of thanks was preſented to captain Louis, and publiſhed in the newſpapers of the day.

Captain Louis was in the channel fleet, under lord Bridport, in May, 1797; after which he was ordered into the Mediterranean, to join the fleet then under the command of admiral ſir John Jervis.—On the 30th of April, 1798, admiral Nelſon, who had joined earl St. Vincent on the preceding day, off Cadiz, was detached into the Mediterranean with a ſmall ſquadron, conſiſting of three ſail of the line, two frigates, and a ſloop of war; and ſhortly after, captain Louis ſailed with a ſquadron under captain (now ſir Thomas) Trowbridge, to reinforce him. A junction was formed between the two ſquadrons on the 8th of June, when admiral Nelſon found himſelf at the head of thirteen ſail of the line, a fifty gun ſhip, two frigates, and a ſloop of war. The long cruiſe, which ſucceeded, in queſt of the French fleet, is too well known, and had been too frequently deſcribed, for it to require any detailed account in this place. Suffice it to mention, that the enemy were diſcovered at anchor, in the bay of Aboukir, on the 1ſt of Auguſt. Admiral Nelſon's flag-ſhip, the Vanguard, anchored the firſt on the outer ſide of the enemy; and the Minotaur, Defence, Bellerophon, Majeſtic, Swiftſure, and Alexander, coming up in ſucceſſion, paſſed within hail of the Vanguard, and took their reſpective ſtations, oppoſed to the enemy's line.

The account of the interview which took place between admiral Nelſon and captain Louis, during the heat of the engagement, is ſo exceedingly intereſting, and reflects ſo exalted a degree of credit upon the profeſſional conduct of the latter officer, that we are perſuaded every reader will pardon its repetition in this place; particularly as the original ſtatement was ſlightly incorrect:—'When the Vanguard anchored alongſide le Spartiate, ſhe became expoſed to the raking fire of l'Aquilon, the next ſhip in the enemy's line; by which the Vanguard had between fifty and ſixty men diſabled in the ſpace of ten minutes. Owing, however, to the gallant and judicious manner in which captain Louis took his ſtation a-head of the Vanguard, the Minotaur not only effectually relieved her from this diſtreſſing ſituation, but overpowered her opponent. Admiral Nelſon felt ſo grateful to captain Louis for his conduct on this important occaſion, that about nine o'clock, while yet the combat was raging with the utmoſt fury, and he himſelf was ſuffering ſeverely in the cockpit, from the dreadful wound in his head, he requeſted captain Berry to hail the Minotaur, and deſire captain Louis would come to him, as he could not have a moment's peace until he had thanked him for his conduct; adding, *this is the hundred and twenty-fourth time I have been engaged, but it is now nearly over with me.* The ſubſequent meeting which took place between the admiral and captain Louis, was affecting in the extreme. The latter hung over his bleeding

bleeding friend in ſilent ſorrow.—'Farewell, dear Louis,' ſaid the admiral, 'I ſhall never forget the obligation I am under to you for your brave and generous conduct; and now, whatever may become of me, my mind is at peace.'

The reſult of this engagement was, that, of the French fleet, conſiſting of thirteen ſhips of the line and four frigates, nine of the former were taken, two were burnt, and two eſcaped. The two ſhips which had the good fortune to make off, it will be recollected, were afterwards taken.

The Minotaur ſuſtained a loſs on this occaſion of twenty-three killed, and 64 wounded.

Captain Louis, in common with the other captains of the fleet, received the thanks of parliament, accompanied by a gold medal, emblematical of the victory. He was alſo preſented with a ſword by the city of London.

In the ſummer of 1799, admiral Nelſon having returned to the Mediterranean, captain Louis, with capt. Trowbridge, was diſpatched by his lordſhip to take poſſeſſion of the Roman territory. Having entered into articles of capitulation with the French general, Grenier, a detachmen of 200 hundred ſeamen and marines was landed from the Minotaur and Culloden, for the purpoſe of taking poſſeſſion of Civita Vecchia, Cornatto, and Toiſa; while captain Louis, and general Bouchard, proceeded to take poſſeſſion of Rome on the ſame terms.

For this ſervice, captain Louis was afterwards preſented with the *inſignia* of the Sicilian order of St. Ferdinand and of merit.

Indeed, the obligations which his Sicilian majeſty was under to lord Nelſon, were truly great, and it was difficult to eſtimate them too highly. His majeſty's regret, on hearing of the death of his gallant preſerver, was, we doubt not, in proportion to the greatneſs of thoſe obligations; eſpecially as, at that moment, he muſt have anticipated the deplorable events, which, by the ſanguinary remorſeleſs ambition of Bonaparte, have ſince hurled him from the ſacred throne of his anceſtors.

'Ev'n on the day, when weeping Britons bore
His corſe, in mournful pomp, to Albion's ſhore;
Ev'n then, perhaps, Sicilia's threaten'd lord
Breath'd the warm wiſh for his protecting ſword.'

During the remainder of the war, captain Louis continued in the Mediterranean: a circumſtance which enabled him to witneſs the capture of thoſe ſhips which had eſcaped from the battle of Aboukir. In the courſe of the year 1800, after the deſtruction of the Queen Charlotte, he had the honour of receiving lord Keith's flag in the Minotaur: and in the ſpring of 1801, he was ſtill farther gratified, by his lordſhip's ſelecting him for the ſervice on the coaſt of Egypt.

Captain Louis returned to England at the latter end of 1802, and retired on half-pay, on the peace eſtabliſhment.

At the commencement of the preſent war, his ſervices were again called for, and he was appointed to the Conqueror a new 74; in which ſhip he remained until his promotion to the rank of rear-admiral of the white ſquadron, which took place on the 23d of April 1804. He then hoiſted his flag in the Leopard, of 50 guns, and commanded on the Boulogne ſtation during the whole of that year.

In the month of March, 1805, the rear-admiral was particularly applied for by his much-eſteemed, and much-lamented friend, lord Nelſon in the ardous attack in chaſing the French fleet to the Weſt Indies and back;

back; after which he was detached by his lordſhip, with ſeven ſail of the line, to Tetuan bay, on a ſervice of ſpecial importance. To this abſence of rear-admiral Louis from the main fleet, has been attributed the circumſtance of admiral Villeneuve's venturing out from Cadiz; a circumſtance to which we are indebted for the moſt brilliant victory that ever graced our annals.

Thus, by a ſort of chance, as it were, was our officer deprived of the opportunity of contributing to the defeat of the enemy; yet he muſt rather have exulted, than repined at the event, as that chance proved highly and eſſentially beneficial to the glory and the intereſts of his country. Had he remained with lord Nelſon, it is probable that the combined fleet would not have ventured to face our tars; or, had they ventured, the ſplendour of the victory would have been feeble indeed, compared with that which crowned the unparalleled efforts of an inferior force.

But, independently of the diminution of honour to his country, which his preſence off the heights of Trafalgar might have occaſioned, rear-admiral Louis had abundant cauſe for ſelf-congratulation. On returning from the Mediterranean, he fell in with vice-admiral ſir J. T. Duckworth, who having received intelligence of a French fleet being in the Weſt Indies, took our gallant officer under his command, and purſued them. He had the good fortune, it will be well recollected, to come up with them, off the town of St. Domingo, on the 6th of February, in the laſt year. Never was victory more complete or deciſive; yet, in conſequence of the ſuperiority of two ſhips, which the Engliſh poſſeſſed, it made a ſomewhat fainter impreſſion on the public mind than might have been expected, or, indeed, than the achievement deſerved. But as, in gazing upon the ſun, the eye is dazzled, and rendered incapable of eſtimating the luſtre of luminaries; ſo, in contemplating the unprecedented victory of Trafalgar, the mind became abſorbed, and loſt its power of appreciating exploits, which, otherwiſe, would have been extolled amongſt the moſt heroic acts.

'At a ſhort period after ten,' ſays admiral Duckworth, in his official account of the action, 'the Superb cloſed upon the bow of the Alexander, the leading ſhip, and commenced the action; but after three broadſides, ſhe ſheered off: the ſignal was now made for cloſer action, and we were enabled to attack the admiral in the Imperial, (formerly le Vengeur,) the fire of which had been heavy on the Northumberland, bearing the honourable rear-admiral Cochrane's flag. By this time, the movement of the Alexander had thrown her among the lee diviſion, which rear-admiral Louis happily availed himſelf of, and the action became general, and continued with great ſeverity till half paſt eleven," &c.

The total loſs of the Engliſh, in this engagement, was 74 killed, and 264 wounded: the Canopus, rear-admiral Louis's ſhip, having 8 of the former, and 22 of the latter.

One circumſtance, particularly deſerving of notice, is, that ſir J. T. Duckworth purſued the French ſquadron, under the expectation of having to contend, not with an *inferior*, but a *ſuperior* force; and, had his expectation been anſwered, there is no reaſon to ſuppoſe that the iſſue of the conteſt would have been leſs ſucceſsful than it proved; though, of courſe, the glory of the Britiſh arms would have been greater.

Howſoever ſlightly the affair might be eſtimated at home, by thoſe who know nothing of the danger and chances of battle but by report, it is evident that the commander-in-chief, whoſe opinion in this caſe ought to be regarded as of ſome weight, conſidered

ſidered as no unimportant play of arms. 'When I contemplate,' ſays he, 'on the reſult of this action, *when five ſail of the line had ſurrendered*, or *were apparently deſtroyed in leſs than two hours*, I cannot, *though bound to pay every tribute to the noble and gallant efforts* of the honourable rear-admiral Cochrane, rear-admiral Louis, the captains, officers, ſeamen, and royal marines, under my command, *be vain enough to ſuppoſe that, without the aiding hand of Providence, ſuch a reſult could have been effected, and with a loſs ſo comparatively ſmall.*'

For the ſhare which rear-admiral Louis bore in the action off St. Domingo, he received the thanks of both houſes of parliament, and was preſented, by the committee of the patriotic fund, with a vaſe, valued at 300l. with an appropriate inſcription.

A ſhort time afterwards, his majeſty was alſo pleaſed to raiſe him to the dignity of a baronet of the united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, by patent, bearing date the 29th of March, 1806.

Since that period, his majeſty has likewiſe been farther pleaſed to grant his royal licenſe and authority, that he, the ſaid Thomas Louis, and the heirs male of his body to whom the dignity of baronet ſhall deſcend, in virtue of the limitations in his majeſty's letters patent of creation, may bear ſupporters to the armorial enſigns of Louis.*

Sir Thomas Louis, after the ſervice which he had performed in the Weſt Indies, returned to his ſtation in the Mediterranean, where he remained for ſome time, and then came to England.

Sir Thomas had been ſedulouſly occupied in ſuperintending the equipment of a ſecret expedition, of great importance, when the news arrived that the French ſquadron, of which Jerome Bonaparte's ſhip, the Veteran, had formed a part, was on its return to Europe from the Weſt Indies. In conſequence of this intelligence, the military force of the expedition was diſembarked; and ſir Thomas Louis, in the Canopus, with ten other ſhips of the line, put to ſea early in the month of September, with the view of intercepting the above-mentioned ſquadron. His orders, it is ſaid, were to cruize fifty leagues weſt of Belleiſle.

We have yet to obſerve, that early in life, ſir Thomas Louis married a miſs Belfield, a young lady of very reſpectable family in the weſt of England, by whom he has four ſons and three daughters. His eldeſt ſon, John Louis, was promoted to the rank of poſt captain, in his majeſty's navy, during the adminiſtration of lord Barham; exactly twenty-three years after ſir Thomas attained the ſame rank himſelf. His youngeſt ſon, Charles Belfield Louis, is now in the naval academy at Portſmouth, being alſo intended for his father's profeſſion.

From the curſory view which we have taken of ſir Thomas Louis's profeſſional life, it muſt be obvious to every reader, that he is an active, a courageous, and an able officer.—Indeed, after the diſtinguiſhing compliments that were paid to him by the immortal hero of the Nile, it would be only the extreme of folly, or the extreme of malignity, that would venture to call his talents in queſtion; for, than the departed Nelſon, no man was ever more capable of diſcovering or appreciating merit, and its contrary. His penetrating glance could, in a moment, pierce the veil, which, to common obſervers, might be the ſcreen of incapacity or cowardice. The fiery ordeal has been paſſed, by thoſe whoſe good fortune

NOTE.

* Vide London Gazette, July 6, 1806.

Elfridii imagining that he sees the murdered Viola in the winding passage.

Romance of the Pyrenees Chap. LXVII

fortune enabled them to acquire the friendſhip and eſteem of Nelſon.

We ſhall conclude this memoir in the words of an anonymous writer, who after noticing the death of the firſt of heroes, piouſly exclaims,

'God of the world! by whoſe divine decree
Britannia's croſs, in conqueſts rides the ſea—
Our voice in this triumphant hour we raiſe;
Propitious, hear our prayer; accept our praiſe!
Be thine the glory, that this conqu'ring prow
So oft from combat bore the captive foe;
And oh! in mercy, may thy high command
Raiſe other Nelſons to protect our land!'

The Romance of the Pyrenees, by a Lady. *(Continued from page 216.)*

CHAP. XXXIX.

VICTORIA's faculties were now in wildeſt tumult; ſhe knew not what to believe, except the certainty of divine omnipreſence; or what to doubt, but the ſtability of her own mind, which ſhe now found ſo dreadfully ſhaken that ſhe feared its final overthrow; and her firſt effort was to ſave that upon which all depended, by invoking the protection of the power that now only could avail her. Inſtantly ſhe dropped upon her knees, and fervently prayed to Heaven for ſuccour, and for the reſtoration of her mental ſtrength, which the influence of deluſion was mining faſt.—Pure was her piety, and her petitions were not offered in vain. The divine influence ſhe implored pervaded her whole ſoul; ſhe aroſe from her knees undaunted; and in the moment when her ſituation called for all the powers of her mind ſhe found them in fulleſt force collected.

Doubtful now if her myſterious guide were really dead, or only in a fit, all that might occur in either caſe paſſed rapidly through her imagination; and in either caſe deſtruction to her ſeemed equally inevitable. Could ſhe retrace the dreadful and intricate path the inquiſitor had led her thither by, it could avail her nothing, unacquainted as ſhe was with the ſecrets of the way that precipitated them into theſe horrid caverns; and ſhould ſhe remain where ſhe was, ſhe ſhould alike expoſe herſelf to the perils attendant upon the inquiſitor's poſſible recovery, and to the power of thoſe by whoſe means ſhe doubted not all the horrors ſhe had witneſſed were effected. To penetrate further on ſeemed now her only reſource; ſhe had no other means of eſcape; and through unexplored ways, although ſhe had every thing to fear, conviction had not ariſen to tell her ſhe had nothing to hope. It was to ſeek Urbino ſhe had entered the caverns; and now, with only Heaven for her guide, might ſhe not, in ſeeking for eſcape, be conducted to his priſon? This idea no ſooner entered her mind than it took total poſſeſſion of it, and with all the energy of enthuſiaſtic hope ſhe prepared for the bold and audacious enterpriſe.

Around Victoria now looked with an eagerly-inquiring eye; the ſhrine ſeemed to have loſt half its brilliancy; but to her infinite joy ſhe beheld a door oppoſite to that they had entered by, and through it ſhe immediately determined upon attempting to go, but firſt wiſhed to poſſeſs herſelf of the inquiſitor's torch, which had been extinguiſhed by his fall, and alſo of his piſtols, to ſave herſelf in caſe of his recovery and purſuit of her, from that fate ſhe had for ſome time thought he meant them to inflict; yet as ſhe was haſtily taking poſſeſſion of his torch, ſhe found that vital warmth glowed in the hand that held it; and as ſhe might be miſtaken in the opinion ſhe had formed of him,—and, even if ſhe were not, ſtill conſidering him a fellow-

creature

creature, ſhe would not deprive him of the only means of ſaving himſelf, but left him his lantern to guide him. Having with a fearful hand placed his piſtols in her belt, ſhe devoutly conſigned herſelf to the protection of Heaven, and, haſtening to the door, found it opened upon a ſhort flight of ſteps, at the foot of which was another door, which ſhe found no difficulty in opening, and through it ſhe entered into a narrow and not very long paſſage: but no ſooner did ſhe do ſo than a moſt dreadful fetid ſmell ſtruck her loathing ſenſes, and ſhe would have retreated even to the black chamber, only ſhe found it impoſſible to open the laſt door ſhe had paſſed through, which had cloſed after her by a ſpring, the ſecret of which ſhe could by no means diſcover. To proceed therefore was inevitable; and ſhe was led on by a hope of ſoon eſcaping from the horrid ſtench; but in that ſhe was deceived; for no ſooner did ſhe uncloſe another door, which terminated the paſſage, than ſhe found herſelf almoſt ſtifled by an increaſe of the peſtiferous effluvia.

To a pitiable dilemma Victoria now found herſelf reduced: to remain in the paſſage was impoſſible, and to proceed threatened deſtruction: yet, could ſhe eſcape ſuffocation, her wanderings might ſoon lead her into a leſs noxious atmoſphere. She thought of lighting the other torch, but was compelled to give up the idea from the impoſſibility of carrying it lighted, wanting as ſhe ſhould one hand at liberty to open and ſhut the doors ſhe might meet with. Praying fervently as ſhe advanced, ſhe ſummoned ſufficient reſolution to paſs through this door, and encounter in fulleſt force the noiſome air which ſeemed every moment about to ſtop her breath. From this door was a ſhort deſcent into an immenſe vault; where Victoria no ſooner found herſelf than horror in its moſt horrible ſhape almoſt annihilated her tortured faculties, ſince ſhe was, as ſhe rightly conjectured, in the dreadful repoſitory of the mangled corſes of her murdered fellow-creatures. Frantically ſhe retreated into the paſſage, and there for a few moments ſtood clinging to the door-caſe in breathleſs diſmay.

At length an idea moſt horrible preſented itſelf to her terror-ſtruck mind. Perhaps Heaven had conducted her thither to find the mangled corſe of Urbino, to breathe by his ſide her laſt ſigh in prayer for the repoſe of his ſoul. Inſtantly ſhe precipitated herſelf into this dreadful ſepulchre. This was the moſt ſoul-harrowing moment of Victoria's life; but horrible as the idea was which now monopoliſed every tortured faculty, it ſpared her humanity the heart-rending anguiſh which reflexion elſe would have inflicted, as ſhe paſſed by heaps of the human ſpecies mouldering there, deprived of life and the rites of burial by the ſanguinary aſſaſſins hand; and while wading through a ſlimy ſoil which coward fancy elſe would have pourtrayed to her as moiſtened by human blood, happily the thoughts of how many widows and orphans, of how many parents of child bereft, had deplored the corſes there, ſtruck not once her ſuſceptible heart. But whenever a newly-butchered body, clad in the ſmalleſt degree like Urbino or Sebaſtian, ſtruck her wild inquiring eye, in all the phrenzy of apprehenſive horror ſhe gleamed her torch upon the pallid countenance; and convulſive was the bound of her agitated heart when freed from the fell graſp of anticipating horror, on each time beholding features perfectly unknown to her.

At length this direful examination was finiſhed—not according to Victoria's expectations, but to her wiſhes; and reaching the termination of this ſoul-harrowing repoſitory, ſhe ruſhed

up

up three or four broad steps, pushed open a folding door, and ran, nay almost flew, along a narrow winding passage; from which she was just emerging into a sort of cavern, when she stumbled over the breathless body of a man as cold as marble, and in her fall her torch was extinguished.

CHAP. XL.

It is impossible for the feeble historian now to delineate the feelings of Victoria. But firmly persuaded this body was Urbino's, she raised her eyes to pray Heaven instantly to receive her last sighs, when—oh! gentle sympathising reader! if Victoria has yet interested you, will you not rejoice? she beheld a gleam of light emanating through some chinks in the rocks a little distance of her. With the speed of a doe she scrambled to the place, and to her inexpressible rapture she discovered it contained a door; which without hesitation she pushed in, and entered a small and singular kind of apartment, of a pyramidical form, in the centre of which a lamp was burning on a stone table. Wildly Victoria snatched up the lamp; and in turning to go out, first perceived that in one corner of this chamber, on a matted couch, lay extended a human figure wrapped in a sacerdotal robe.—Could this be Urbino?—Her heart dilated with new raised hope. She bounded to the couch; and to her utter amazement beheld, in an uneasy slumber, the identical being whose apparently supernatural appearance in the library had relieved her from the grasp of Garcias the third morning of her captivity.

Cruel disappointment to her hopes struck heavily upon her heart; but, her soul on the wing to learn if her dreadful fears were just, she flew back to the corse, and found it was that of a person unknown to her. Grateful to Heaven for this great mercy, she took up her extinguished torch, and returned to the place where she had seen the sleeping man, resolving to disclose her situation to him, and to implore his pity and protection.

On re-entering his chamber, she found the venerable man raised a little on his elbow, the approach of death strongly pourtrayed in his emaciated and woe-worn countenance. The vanishing of the light had dissipated his slumber; and on Victoria's returning with it, by some sudden effort of expiring nature he was enabled to sit up erect; and devout clasping a crucifix which he held in his feeble hands—

'Heaven, I thank thee!' he exclaimed in a faltering and hollow tone—'I thank thee for directing the footsteps of this holy man to the death-bed of thy true penitent! Reverend father, you behold in me the most consummate sinner that ever offended against Heaven. I have insulted my Creator by the commission of crimes that even fiends might shrink from! Yet in this my last hour no death-bed horrors encompass me; since, firm in faith, I trust that years spent in the most sincere contrition that ever agonised the heart of man have expunged from the records of Heaven the fell catalogue of my black crimes. But ere you proceed to give your benediction, or strengthen my fleeting soul in hope, let me make all the atonement now in my power to those whom I have most injured.' He here drew a packet from his bosom, and, presenting it to our awed and amazed heroine, proceeded.

'As you consider your holy vow sacred, and as your soul hopes to taste the pure joys of Paradise in the presence of your beneficent Creator and of your blessed Redeemer, conceal this packet from every individual in the world, until Heaven permits you to deliver it as directed! If you love justice, if you estimate virtue, im-

mediately seek out the injured youth to whom it is addressed! As you hope to prosper here and be blessed hereafter, be faithful to the sacred trust confided to you! and believe that Almighty Providence itself consigns to your chosen hands the fate of my injured friend and benefactor's child, of him the world now call conte di Urbino.'

'Urbino!' half shrieking cried Victoria, catching the death-clad hand of the agitated man—'do you then know the fate of conte Urbino?'

Her voice seemed to have a powerful effect upon the dying man; for, shrinking from her grasp, he sunk back on the couch in a swoon. Victoria strove to recall his fleeting senses by the aid of some salts she had in her pocket; and he had just opened his wistful eyes once more upon the world, when, to Victoria's utter dismay, the inquisitor entered the chamber, guided by the lantern she had left with him.

'You have anticipated me in coming hither,' said he haughtily to her.

The moment the inquisitor spoke, the dying man, with a universal convulsive shiver, eagerly exclaimed, 'From him, above all the world I conjure thee, conceal what I have entrusted to thee!'

'What say you?' said the inquisitor in a tone of fierce alarm and imperious interrogation.

'From the imbecility of sickness, and from my being clad in a sacerdotal habit,' replied Victoria, 'he mistakes me, I suppose, for his confessor.'

The dying man pressed Victoria's hand in gratitude and approbation; while the inquisitor, hastily advancing, with the wild gestures of phrensied menace exclaimed:—

'Wretch! infernal miscreant! what have you dared to confess? Diabolical villain! accursed fiend! you who plunged me into the gulf of iniquity, and gave to me all of misery my life has known, have you basely deserted me? Have you sacrificed me in your pusillanimous confessions? Whom have you been glossing over your own black crimes to, by implicating others? Speak, miscreant! or I will crush you to atoms in my just vengeance!'

Victoria, shocked and alarmed for the safety of the feeble penitent, started from her support of him, and, pointing to the pistols in her belt, undauntedly addressed the infuriated inquisitor.

'We have you in our power, you see. Advance no further, intemperate man. Disturb not with phrensied threats the last sacred moments of the dying. Question with calmness, and you will be answered by sincerity.'

The inquisitor retreated a few paces, and, raising his hood a little, seemed to regard her for some moments with attentive amazement before he articulated—

'Extraordinary young creature! you almost impel me to forgive your being the destroyer of Urbino.'

'Me the destroyer of Urbino!' exclaimed Victoria, half shrieking with horror ineffable.

'Had he never beheld thy fatal, fatal charms—had he never witnessed thy accursed fascinations, he had now been safe at the château of conte Vicenza! Was it not to rescue you from destruction the gallant and ill-fated youth came after you to this infernal castle, and persuaded me to enter into his romantic, his dangerous schemes? For you he brought the vengeance of conte Vicenza and his diabolical confederates on him; and for you he is now probably suffering all the calamities, all the tortures that dæmonic cruelty can inflict.'

Victoria burst into a convulsive passion

paſſion of tears, which ſaved her from fainting.

'Say, what horrors do you allude to?' exclaimed the dying penitent in dreadful agitation. 'What calamity has befallen the precious boy? Speak! I entreat, I implore you! Bury animoſities in this awful moment, I conjure you, and tell me, tell me all you know of him, Franciſco!'

'Franciſco!' ſaid Victoria in amaze and joy. 'Suſpicion is then no more. You protected Urbino—you befriended me. You will not, I am perſuaded, however agitated by tumultuous paſſions, harm this dying man, or injure me: and your arms, therefore, I ſhould bluſh at retaining longer in my poſſeſſion.' And now advancing towards the inquiſitor, ſhe gracefully reſtored his piſtols to him.

'You have conquered, lady Victoria! and were concealment longer in my power, I ſhould conſider it unjuſt to generoſity like yours,' ſaid this man of myſtery, throwing back his cowl, and diſcovering to our aſtoniſhed heroine the features of the identical old man who had entered her chamber through the ſecret paſſage from the church, to reſcue the lovely Matilda. And no ſooner was his entire countenance diſplayed, than ſuſpicion received a conſiderable check; ſince the villany his overſhadowed viſage indicated was now firmly contradicted by the ingenuouſneſs that ſat conſpicuous on his brow, and by the mild expreſſion which now beamed from his quick and penetrating eyes. But in the ſubſequent part of this interview Victoria beheld, in his varying countenance, ſuch unequivocal expreſſion of almoſt every paſſion which could diſgrace or ornament the human mind, that ſhe doubted not but his heart was the repoſitory of the extremes of virtue and vice.

'I am Franciſco,' he continued, 'and you know now, lady Victoria, that my life is at your mercy: but I dare confide in your prudence and generoſity. Hurried on by the phrenſy of deſpair for the unknown fate of Urbino, I allured you hither, though I knew not but deſtruction awaited us from ſome of don Manuel's people. I truſted that the reſiſtleſs charms of your youth, your beauty, your faſcination of voice and manner, added to the ſingular proofs you have given of gratitude and attachment to my dear boy, would melt the hitherto impenetrable heart of this man, whom I once called friend, and win him into breaking an oath raſhly given to don Manuel of concealing from me ſome ſecret places in this caſtle: and had your influence failed, much I fear my deſperation would have led me on to ſacrifice you both to my vengeance; and as you have diſarmed my heart of its phrenſy, ſo I truſt you have ſubdued the contumacy of conte Ezziridi; and that he will no longer ſcruple to make all the atonement now in his power for his paſt offences, by imparting inſtantly to us every ſecret which can yield a hope of leading us to Urbino, who is, I am firmly perſuaded, now confined in ſome infernal den, where even the power of the inquiſition cannot penetrate.'

'Oh, dear ſuffering child of her I murdered, what ſad tidings do I hear!' exclaimed the penitent conte in all the anguiſh of deep wrought deſpair. 'Yes, Franciſco, I have lived to feel convinced that Heaven will not enrol in the pages of guilt the breach of oaths which bind us to the vicious. Lead me—lead me, then on, Franciſco, as far as my ſtiffening limbs and fleeting breath can carry me.'

With that appearance of renovated ſtrength which energy from zeal ſupplied, the agitated penitent aroſe from his couch, ſupported by Franciſco and Victoria, taught them to open a ſecret ſliding pannel in his

chamber, and entered with them through it into a narrow paſſage. But it was the laſt flaſh of the expiring lamp of life. His ſupporters ſoon ſaw, with grief unutterable, the folly of the attempt; they bore him back to his couch, where in a few moments after he expired,—and with him every clue by which they hoped to have been led to the priſon of Urbino.

The deſpair of Franciſco exceeded all bounds of reaſon and piety: he breathed forth the moſt dreadful anathemas againſt the pale corſe before him; imprecated his own exiſtence and his crimes; flung himſelf upon the ground with the fury of a maniac; tore out handfuls of his hoary hair; and writhed about in all the wild phrenſy of ungoverned deſpair.

Victoria's anguiſh was not leſs poignant; but hers was the ſorrow of a chriſtian. It ſtruck every fibre of ſenſibility with the felleſt blows of ſoul-harrowing affliction: but with ſadly ſilent uncomplaining grief ſhe bore her miſery; for, remembering whoſe hand had plucked the ſweet floweret of happineſs from her heart, ſhe bowed in reverential meek ſubmiſſion; and ſo beautifully touching appeared the light and ſhade of pious reſignation and heart-rending ſorrow that diffuſed themſelves over every line of her intereſting countenance, that Franciſco, ſtruck by its faſcinating eloquence, bluſhed at his own conduct: and, rallying all the good properties of his mind, ſoon, from the power of ſuch a pure example, felt the influence of chriſtian fortitude, ſtealing from miſery its felleſt pangs, and breathing its melliſluent balm upon his ſorrows.

Heaven too beheld Victoria, approved and pitied. The wanderer Hope was remanded back to its ſoothing ſtation in her breaſt; ſuddenly her ſenſes awakened upon new projects; haſtily ſhe ſnatched up her torch, and lighting it, ſaid firmly to Franciſco—

'By the deceaſed conte's having diſcovered yon paſſage to us, in compliance with your wiſh of participating with him in all the ſecrets of this caſtle, we muſt naturally conclude that through it you would have been conducted to the ſpot probably of the moſt importance. Let us then purſue the path of Hope which Providence ſeems to have opened to us; and, guided by all pitying Heaven, our attempt may be crowned with the bleſſings of ſucceſs.'

Franciſco ſtarted from the ground, animated by a cheering ray of that hope which now thrilled through every fibre of his frame; and with all the zeal of ardent fond ſolicitude they re-entered the paſſage, exploring every ſpot of it with the wiſtful ſcrutiny their painful ſolicitude forcibly prompted. This paſſage led them ſeveral hundred feet from the chamber of the deceaſed penitent, to a narrow cylindrical ſtaircaſe, which they haſtily aſcended; and, after mounting innumerable ſteps, at length reached a door, which without difficulty Franciſco opened, being well acquainted with the nature of the lock which faſtened it; and on paſſing through the door, they found themſelves in a room ornamented with a number of ſtatues; in fact, the very apartment Juan had informed Victoria and her terrified companions was the anatomy chamber.

Franciſco was dreadfully diſappointed and chagrined on finding their ſearch terminate in a room which had the preceding morning undergone the moſt minute ſcrutiny, from Diego's having informed the officials of its being a chamber where many unfortunate captives had been conveyed to, and never been heard of more.

'And from that very myſterious circumſtance,' ſaid Victoria, 'as well as from this room being evident-

ly

ly the first place thought of by the poor deceased penitent, have we not just reason to conjecture some undeveloped secret attached to it?'

Francisco considered her suggestions conclusive, and they were about to renew the scrutiny, when the castle clock struck five.

'We must instantly separate,' said Francisco; 'and you must now only appear to know me as an inquisitor: you can easily conceive the fatal consequences that must ensue to me were it discovered that I had any knowledge of this castle, and concealed it from the august synod of which I am a member.'

'You may place implicit confidence in my faith and prudence,' replied Victoria; 'but when, when shall we renew our anxious search?'

'By the time my brothers assemble,' said Francisco, 'I shall have framed some plea for having this apartment more minutely scrutinised; and should our anxious wishes not be gratified during this day, we will meet again at night to investigate the passage once again, and to examine conte Elfridii's chamber for papers that may yield the discovery we pant for.'

The packet confided to Victoria's care, as it was only to be delivered to Urbino, could afford no clue to his present fate; and as from Francisco she was particularly to conceal the solemn deposit, she mentioned it not of course.

Francisco continued—'Should no attempt of ours succeed, the castle shall be razed; but much time must necessarily elapse before that laborious undertaking can be accomplished; and to save Urbino we can only hope from immediate effects. But I must now hasten to conduct you, by a private way, to your chamber, since Diego and Thomas have stationed themselves in the library to guard you; and from their knowledge particularly I wish to conceal myself: after what they have done, I cannot but fear their perfidy, and wish them to believe that I absconded with the rest of the castle community.'

Francisco now led our sad and agitated heroine through the castle vaults into some winding passages; from whence he safely conducted her into his own apartments, contiguous to Sebastian's; into whose study he hastily admitted her, and giving her his parting benediction, cautiously closed the entrance after him.

CHAP. XLI.

On returning to her chamber, Victoria found, to her infinite satisfaction, Octavia still buried in a profound sleep; and so completely subdued by fatigue was her own frame, and so dreadfully agitated was her mind from all the shocks it had so recently sustained, that she sunk into the first seat she came to; and, giving free indulgence to a friendly shower of tears, found her agonised heart so much relieved by them, that she at length determined upon going to bed: where, about seven o'clock, from downright fatigue of mind and frame, 'tired Nature's sweet restorer' for once lit on lids sullied by many tears. From her deep slumber Octavia took care not to disturb her; and keeping all around her in perfect stillness, the poor wearied Victoria slept until past eleven, when she heard that Diego was gone with fathers Anselmo, Pierre, Leonard, St. Romaine, and the principal officials, to attend a special meeting of the inquisition at Cadaques, and that Thomas had therefore been deputed to go in Diego's stead, to convey intelligence to signora Farinelli and Rosalia, and to conduct them to the castle. And while our heroine was making a hasty toilet, previous to the renewal of her anxious search, it occurred to her, that from the accounts Teresa could possibly give of Matilda might be collected some information

formation of importance; ſhe therefore entreated the good old woman, while ſhe was going through the mock ceremony of breakfaſting, to give her every particle of intelligence ſhe could recollect relative to the beautiful Matilda: and Tereſa, ever eager to oblige Victoria, inſtantly complied.

(To be continued)

A Night Walk in February. By J. M. L.

'The ſhadowy veil of night enwraps the ſcene;
No moon beam cheers the trav'ller on his way.
Loud howls the ſtorm yon aged oaks between,
Where brooding Horror ſeems to hold his ſway.

Author's Manuſcript Poems.

A WALK at night in the diſmal month of February could not poſſibly be productive of much pleaſure. The ground was exceedingly wet, owing to preceding rains; and as I went the ſharp-falling ſhower was impelled in my face by as heavy a gale of wind as I almoſt ever remember. It was, indeed, a night when Horror might be truly ſaid to hold his ſway. The leafleſs trees were bent almoſt to the ground by the violence of the ſtorm; and, had not neceſſity compelled me, I ſhould certainly have preferred the comforts of a houſe to the uncomfortableneſs of the tempeſt. But I was well defended from the bitterneſs of the blaſt by good cloathing. Alas! how many thouſands at the ſame moment were expoſed to the ſame ſtorm with ſcarcely enough of dreſs to anſwer decency's demands, certainly not enough to defend their ſqualid forms from the keen air of winter; and when they ſeek their miſerable habitations, penury, cheerleſs penury, ſtill ſtares them in the face, whilſt not a ſmile welcomes them home. The following deſcription is, alas! too often true.

'See yonder ſhiv'ring wretch ſo meanly clad,
The pallid ſon of penury and pain;
Whoſe lodging ſhelters not, whoſe food is bad;
Food hardly earn'd! for ſmall the poor man's gain:
Alas! too oft his famiſh'd offspring claim
The promis'd bread he has not got to give;
Though poor, perchance he ſcorns the bread of ſhame,
And rather dares to die than ſo to live!
The only fire his humble hearth can boaſt
The ſcanty produce of the neighbouring ſtreet,
Glean'd by his children, ſome few chips at moſt.
Theſe are the woes ſad want is doom'd to meet.'

Author's Manuſcript Poems.

As I walked, my mind inſenſibly caught the gloom of the ſeaſon, and reverted to the many calamities which the unfortunate campaign, at the cloſe of laſt year, had produced to the wretched inhabitants of the continent of Europe. Oh Heaven! of thy infinite mercy, long avert ſuch dreadful ſcenes from the fair vales of my beloved country! Long grant us to be an example to the whole world of unanimity and patriotiſm! Theſe ideas brought to my recollection the celebrated ſoliloquy of Selim in the play of Barbaroſſa, at the end of the third act, when the conſpirators and himſelf have determined on the deſtruction of the tyrant.

'Now ſleep and ſilence
Brood o'er the city.—The devoted centinel
Now takes his lonely ſtand, and ſilly dreams
Of that to-morrow he ſhall never ſee!
In this dread interval, oh, buſy thought,
Deſcend into thyſelf!
Search deep my heart! bring with thee awful conſcience,
And firm reſolve! That in the approaching hour
Of blood and horror, I may ſtand unmov'd;
Nor fear to ſtrike where juſtice calls, nor dare
To ſtrike where ſhe forbids!
Witneſs ye powers of Heaven,
That not from you, but from the murderer's eye,

I wrap

I wrap myself in night! To you I ſtand
Reveal'd in noon-tide day.—Oh! could I arm
My hand with pow'r! Then, like to you, array'd
In ſtorm and fire, my ſwift-avenging thunder
Should blaſt this tyrant. But ſince fate denies
That privilege, I'll ſeize on what it gives;
Like the deep-cavern'd earthquake, burſt beneath him,
And whelm his throne, his empire, and himſelf,
In one prodigious ruin.'

I proceeded haſtily along. Neither moon nor ſtars afforded a ſingle ray to guide me in my way; no ſound cheered me, ſave the dreary bark of a diſtant dog;

'Or where from yon' ancient tower,
Perch'd on ivy-tangled throne,
Breaking through night's ſilent hour,
Wiſdom's bird repeats her moan.'

As I went, the violence of the gale rather increaſed: and, as is very natural in ſuch caſes, my ideas wandered to the ſcene of ſhipwreck. How ſuperlatively awful muſt be the ſituation of men in a night like this, confined to the fragile veſſel that bears them on the deep; every thread of canvas taken in, the helm totally uſeleſs; whilſt the tempeſt drives them over the ſurgy ſurface of the ocean, and horror pictures to their fevered minds the rock that they every inſtant expect will burſt the veſſel's bottom; the only defence, and ſmall it is, that now intervenes between them and eternity! To that Power who ſuffers not a ſparrow to periſh without his will, offer up your fervent prayers: his arm alone can ſave you.

Thus imagination mournfully beguil'd
my way,
Imagination! ever-varying pow'r!
Receive the tribute of a thoughtful mind;
Thou, who canſt add to horror's awful hour,
Or make thy vot'ry pleaſing moments find.
When anguiſh bids the nightly mourner weep,
'Tis thine to ſhew to ſorrow's ſtreaming eye
The ſeaman, ſtorm-driv'n on the ſurgy deep;
While fancy hears his laſt ſad ſhipwreck'd cry.'

Author's Manuſcript Poems.

How ſuited methought was ſuch a night as this to the being overwhelmed with miſery! every thing was in uniſon with the ideas one may ſuppoſe predominant in ſuch a mind.

'No bird of night now ventur'd on the wing,
Nor prowling animal dar'd wander forth.
Nature appear'd to feel the ſeaſon's ſting,
And droop'd beneath the venom-winged North.'

Author's Manuſcript Poems.

Too true, alas! it is, that when deſpair has graſped the ſoul of man, he finds a gloomy pleaſure in what, at a time when his mind was the abode of peace, would have cauſed him to ſhudder;

'For the ſad mind where ſorrow rules ſupreme
Will find the ſtorm congenial to its doom:
The darkeſt night deſpair will ever deem
Light, when compar'd with grief's heart-rending gloom.
The penſive wand'rer dearly loves to ſtray,
When night and ſolitude attend his way.'

Author's Manuſcript Poems.

A late penſive authoreſs, mrs. Charlotte Smith, now gone to ſeek in a better world the juſtice denied to her in this, has in many of her ſonnets deſcribed night-ſcenes like the preſent, mournfully yet beautifully: one that now occurs to my remembrance will, I am confident, need no apology.

'SONNET,

'*On being cautioned againſt walking on a headland overlooking the ſea, becauſe it was frequented by a lunatic.*

'Is there a ſolitary wretch who hies
To the tall cliff, with ſtarting pace, or ſlow,
And, meaſuring, views, with wild and hollow eyes,
Its diſtance from the waves that chides below;

'Who,

'Who, as the sea-born gale, with frequent sighs,
Chills his cold bed upon the mountain turf,
With hoarse half-utter'd lamentation lies,
Murmuring responses to the dashing surf!

'In moody sadness, on the giddy brink,
I see him more with envy than with fear;
He has no *nice felicities*, that shrink
From giant horrors wildly warring there.
He seems (uncurs'd with reason) not to know
The depth or the duration of his woe.'

I now reached the outskirts of the city; for the metropolis was at this time my resting place, and the buildings in some degree sheltered me from the blast. It was late, and the streets were comparatively empty.—Here and there a drowsy watchman going his round, and sleepily mumbling out the hour, in a tone that set at defiance every attempt to discover what he said; or a wretched, outcast female, in drenched garments, wandering about, scarcely seeming to know or care whither, and whose shocking appearance must rather tend to dispel than to excite the impulse it was her horrid profession to stimulate. Oh woman! lovely solacer of the hours of man! how is the mind affected by seeing thee in this degraded situation! Alas! my pen seems to shudder as I write, to this thou art almost always brought by the baseness of my own sex. Dishonoured be the memory of that man, who, by plausible pretences, draws a lovely female into ruin, and then casts the withering blossom from his polluted arms, to seek refuge in death, and what is worse, in prostitution.

'On the cold stone see her laid!
Ellen, once a village maid,
Artless, young, and fair!
Anguish rends her bleeding soul;
Peace has lost its soft control,
Terror triumphs there!

'Beauty in fair Ellen shone;
Each attendant pleasure known
Bade her heart be gay;
But it prov'd her saddest bane;
Guilty love has caus'd her pain,
And torn her peace away!

'Long in prostitution's course,
Of grief and dire disease the source,
Fair Ellen's form was driv'n:
Death, whom oft she doth implore,
Soon will bid her mourn no more!
Forgive her, righteous Heav'n!'

I soon reached my house of rest, completely wet through. Alas! I am a *solitary bachelor!* I had no expecting wife to welcome me; no lovely offspring, wrapped in rosy sleep, over whose bed I could glance the eye of tenderness. If all these things had been mine, the concluding lines of Bloomfield's pleasing poem, 'Market Night,' might at this moment have been very applicable to me; except that I was on foot, and the good Benedick, in that instance, on horseback.

'Where have you staid? put down your load.
How have you borne the storm, the cold?
What horrors did I not forebode.—
That beast is worth his weight in gold.'

Thus spoke the joyful wife; then ran
And hid in grateful streams her head—
Dapple was hous'd, the hungry man
With joy glanc'd o'er the children's bed.

'What, all asleep'—so best;' he cried;
'Oh! what a night I've travell'd through!
Unseen, unheard, I might have died:
But Heav'n has brought me safe to you.

Dear partner of my nights and days,
That smile becomes thee!—Let us then
Learn, though mishap may cross our ways,
It is not ours to reckon when!'

As it was, I made the best I could of it, and as I was stepping into bed apostrophised my *Night-cap*, in some lines I had long ago addressed to that very serviceable little friend.

'How oft with satisfaction's smile,
When tir'd with wand'ring many a mile,
I've welcom'd thee with pleasure;
And when fatigu'd with life's rough storm,
Thy friendly solace oft would warm,
And prove a poet's treasure.

'Thy

Thy form ſhall claſp my aching head
When anguiſh hovers round my bed,
And bid my ſorrows ſlumber:
But virtue muſt preſide within,
For ſleep avoids the ſoul, where ſin
The conſcience doth encumber.

'It matters not of what thou'rt made,
Of humbleſt yarn, or rich brocade,
If peace the mind poſſeſſes;
For vice on down ſhall not be bleſt,
But virtue ſink to ſweeteſt reſt,
Though ſtraw alone it preſſes.'

The Praiſe of Wine. Tranſlated from Rouſſeau. By F. B. Eſq.

EVERY intemperance is a vice, eſpecially that which deprives us of our nobleſt faculty. Exceſs of wine degrades the man, ſuſpends his reaſon for a certain time, and, if perſervered in, at length brutalizes his nature. But love of wine is not a crime; it rarely is the cauſe of one; for it rather makes men ſtupid than wicked. For one ſlight quarrel which wine may occaſion, it paves the way to a hundred laſting friendſhips. Generally ſpeaking, bacchanalians are full of cordiality and frankneſs; they are all good, upright,* juſt, faithful, brave and honeſt men, even to their own detriment. Can the ſame be ſaid of other vices, which ſome would ſubſtitute in its place? How many ſeeming virtues often conceal real vices. The ſage is ſober through temperance, the villain through deceit. In countries where treaſon and adultery prevail, they fear a ſtate of indiſcretion, which diſcovers the heart unintentionally. In thoſe places, in which the people moſt abhor drunkenneſs, there it is that they have the intereſt to guard againſt its generous effects. In Switzerland it is almoſt held in admiration; at Naples it is looked upon with horror; but let me aſk which, at the bottom, is moſt to be feared, the intemperance of a Swiſs, or the reſerve of an Italian?

NOTE.

* Query. A drunken man *upright!*

Let us not then calumniate the vice itſelf—has it not, without, ſufficient deformity? Wine does not create wickedneſs, but detects it. He who, in his wine ſlew Clitus, killed Philotas in cold blood. If inebrity has its phrenſy, what paſſion is without? The difference is that other vices are deeply inlaid in the ſoul, and that this is lit up for one moment and in the next extinguiſhed. Be ſure of it, that he who, when inebriated, does wicked actions, covers, in his hours of ſobriety, baſe and wicked deſigns.

April, 10th.

Bon Mots.

MR. EDITOR,

BY inſerting the following extracts from a very ſcarce and antique book, intituled 'All the Works of John Taylor the Water Poet,' corrected, reviſed, and newly imprinted, 1630, you will greatly oblige a conſtant reader of your truly valuable magazine.

A wealthy lord of Ireland had a goodly faire houſe new built, but the broken brickes, tiles, ſand, lime, ſtones, and ſuch rubbiſh, as are commonly the remnants of ſuch buildings, lay confuſedly in heaps, and ſcattered here and there; the lord demanded of his ſurvayor, wherefore the rubbiſh was not conveyed away; the ſurvayor ſaid, that he propoſed to hyre an hundred carts for the purpoſe. The lord replyed, that the charge of carts might be ſaved; for a pit might bee digged in the ground and bury it. My lord, ſaid the ſurvayor, I pray you what will wee doe with the earth, which we digge out of the ſaid pit? Why you horſeon coxcombe, ſaid the lord, canſt thou not dig the pit deepe enough and bury all together?

A ſpecimen of the antiquity of BULLS!!!

The

The Head of the Family.

A WANTON wife, who had made her husband a cuckold *dormant*, with a front *cressant*, was surprised by the watch *guardant*, and brought to the justice *passant*. The justice told her, her offence was haynous in breaking the bands of matrimony in that adulterate manner, and that she should consider that her husband was her *head*: good sir, quoth thee, I did ever acknowledge him so; and I hope it is no such great fault in me, for I was but trimming, dressing, or *ad*-HORNING my *head*.

I would almost believe the following a prophecy:

A traveller was talking what a goodly citty Rome was, to whom one of the company saide, that all *Rome* was not in Italy; for wee had '*too much* ROME' in Ireland.

Seigneur Valdrino (pay-master to the camp of Alphonsus, king of Arragon), a man exquisite in courtship and complement; as two or three were at strife, laying wagers what countryman he was; a blunt bold captaine asked, 'what was the matter,' Why captaine, said one, we are laying a wager what countryman my lord treasurer Valdrino is: Oh, said the captaine, I can tell you that, I am sure he was born in the Land of Promise, for I have served the king in his wars these seven yeers without pay, and ever when I petition to my lord, he payes me with no coyne, but promises, which makes me half-assured that he is that countryman.

A. R. P—.

To the Editor of the Hibernian Magazine.

SIR,

I BEG to address you on a subject which I think has not been yet sufficiently exposed; and the truth of which, it were happy for the natives of this country, were they more sensibly convinced of—I mean *its general neglect* of *science* and *literature*.

To those whose breasts yet remain unchilled by the expiring glow of patriotism, and whose minds the infant rays of science have ventured to illume, unobscured by the dark ages of antiquity, to those untrammelled by the galling yoke of ancient prejudice, or unbiassed by a misapplied partiality; in short, to every candid well informed mind, this is a subject inexhaustibly replete with sentiments that must equally excite melancholy at the past, as well as regret at the present state of ignorance, under which the natives of Ireland have laboured, and still labour.

By the word *science*, I do not mean a profound investigation into literary researches, or into those abstruse studies, where, as to a focus, the rays of the understanding must solely converge, and consequently the attention be equally abstracted from other pursuits. What I mean here by *science* is general information on whatever subject tends to promote the interests of society, and what will prevent us from appearing blanks in the creation of that world we were born to improve.

That this neglect, or rather distaste, for *science and literature*, or in other words, this ignorance generally prevails throughout this country, is a fact as melancholy as true: its greatest advocates cannot deny it, and his exertions are ineffectual; certainly there are many, very many exceptions to this general rule—exceptions, in which the boast of Ireland may be said to consist; but excluding these, the greater part of the bulk of this nation, though gradually emerging from the darkened veil in which it has been enveloped, still subsists in the most profound state of ignorance, nay of barbarism; obscured by the rude ages of antient

bigotry

bigotry and ſuperſtition, unillumed by any cheering ray of improvement, unſhakenly rivetted to the almoſt ſavage cuſtoms of an unenlightened, though venerated anceſtry, the mere children of nature, though ignorant of her ſimpleſt operations, untutored in all the ways of art except that one *ne plus ultra*, that *primum mobile* of all their thoughts and deſires, the attainment of wealth. Thus ſituated, this yet brave, generous, and hoſpitable people, tread on in the paths aſſigned to them by Providence, with that torpid apathy which prevents them from expanding or even attempting to remove their intricacies, and thus ſupport an exiſtence in their own minds, comparatively, or rather negatively happy; but in the leſs unenlightened, that which would more entitle them to the appellation of ſavage than human beings.

Several cauſes contribute and have contributed to effect this general ignorance; among theſe the moſt powerful perhaps (particularly in the upper ranks of ſociety) may be ſaid to be the erroneous ſyſtem of education that has prevailed, and now prevails to a certain degree. This ſyſtem (generally ſpeaking) conſiſts of the laboured acquirement (often the work of years) of two or three dead languages, which the probability in the higheſt degree is, will not at all promote the exaltation of that ſphere of life in which the learner of them has to move, and which even if it did, were it not brought back to the memory by conſtant recurrence, would glide away without leaving the fainteſt impreſſion of its having been learned. The ſtudy of this, and of writing and arithmetic (which however form but a ſecondary conſideration) conſtitute almoſt entirely this ſyſtem of education in general, ſo that a young man, after having waded through all the toil and tedious drudgery of this ſcholaſtic courſe, and having attained its long ſought for goal, by acquiring the reputation of a profound linguiſt and claſſical ſcholar, may yet find himſelf ignorant of the ſituation of the country in which he lives, or of the ſimpleſt queſtion that could be propoſed, were it to deviate from that mechanical routine in which he has trodden.—This time, therefore, perhaps the moſt important of the ſhort career he has to run, if not thrown away, may be ſaid at leaſt to be applied with much leſs advantage than it otherwiſe might. How much more conſiſtent would it be with the dictates of reaſon and common ſenſe, to at leaſt generalize this ſyſtem, to relax the bonds of this claſſical rigidity, and to the preciſion of the pedant to add, or rather ſubſtitute, the liberality of the man of ſcience, I might ſay the gentleman, by expanding the contracted limits of his education, and including in them thoſe branches which will render him an uſe and ornament to ſociety. Among theſe the moſt important and extenſive, and that, from its embracing ſo wide a field of knowledge, may be ſaid in itſelf to conſtitute *ſcience*, to contribute to the independence of a nation, and from its general concern in the affairs of life, &c. to the happineſs of man, is *natural philoſophy*, which alas! in this ill-fated iſle is ſcarcely known but by name; in ſhort, to its unprotected and infant ſtate in particular, may, I think, may be attributed in great meaſure, the ignorance of the Iriſh nation.

Another fundamental error in this ſyſtem of education equally productive of this ignorance, but more applicable to all ranks of ſociety, is the want of varying it, ſo as to be adapted to the various ſtations of life by which it is to be ſucceeded, the moſt oppoſite of thoſe being filled by perſons whoſe education has been exactly ſimilar. To become properly competent to theſe ſtations is often an arduous and tedious taſk, whereas

thoſe intended for them, without being (by their education) gradually initiated, are ſuddenly launched into their moſt intricate labyrinths, where, unguided by either reaſon or experience, they are often bewildered and loſt. How much more advantage might not the ſoldier render to himſelf and his country were his education directed to a military ſyſtem?—how much more uſeful might not the ſailor alſo render himſelf were his education directed to a maritime ſyſtem?—Might not the farmer render himſelf more uſeful, did his education tend to the purſuit of agriculture?—In ſhort, how much more advantageous might not every occupation in life be rendered were it preceded by a prefatory education? By this means every branch of human knowledge would be individually illuſtrated, the arts would be brought to a ſtate of perfection hitherto unknown, ignorance and barbariſm would be replaced by civilization and refinement, and ſcience would no longer mourn in ſilent neglect.

Another cauſe which contributes to the ignorance of the Iriſh nation, is, as before mentioned, its unconquerable prejudices and ſuperſtitions, which perhaps exceed thoſe of any other nation on the earth. That ſoil is too unpropitious to the growth of ſcience where ſuch noxious weeds are ſuffered to exiſt. This ſuperſtition, which is now rapidly wearing away, may be chiefly attributed to its profound ſtate of barbariſm, which prevented the detection of the fallacious ſyſtem and groſs errors of a rude, though venerated antiquity, from whoſe ſacred tracks it was deemed profanation to deviate, and over whoſe hallowed urn even yet the unerring lights of reaſon ſcarce dare triumph. Thus, from the moſt implicit credulity and groſſeſt barbariſm, originated ſuperſtition and prejudice, which may be conſidered ſynonymous. Every new improvement or change were inſtantly rejected with ſcorn; ſcarce even did the light of genius attempt to dawn its trembling gleam over our dark horizon, but to unfold as it were more clearly the impenetrable gloom of that cloud by which it was to be obſcured and loſt for ever.

Thus the progreſs of *ſcience* and that of ſuperſtition have been (as in all countries, and as muſt naturally be) in an inverſe ratio with each other.

Another reaſon why we are ſo unenlightened, is the melancholy and miſapplied ſtate of our *preſs*; (the ſole medium through which knowledge can be conveyed) which inſtead of being the happy vehicle of our progreſs of improvement and developement from barbariſm, has, from the uſes to which it has been perverted, often produced the contrary effects. Unfortunately this iſle has ever been the ſeat of foreign or internal warfare, which to its natives became conſequently the topic moſt naturally intereſting to them, from its moſt immediate connexion with their own ſecurity and happineſs; hence the preſs became a mere political engine, monopolized by a few who could convert it to the purpoſes that beſt ſuited them, and in whoſe hands its liberty became more and more diminiſhed.

The ſhameful ſtate of degeneracy to which it has by this means been reduced, and which its ableſt advocate, nay its moſt biaſſed partizan muſt allow, is much to be deplored, and preſents the moſt ſtriking picture of the ſtate of obloquy into which *Iriſh literature* has ſunk.

Perhaps there is no mode better calculated for diffuſing general knowledge and a taſte for *ſcience* than *periodical publications*; the mind of man (generally ſpeaking) is not to be wearied, his attention ſtrained, nor his memory racked with the elaborate ſtudied compilations of volumes; neither perhaps will his leiſure permit

to

to devote to them that portion of time, a ſmall part of which he could willingly dedicate to, and might ſuffice for the peruſal of a ſlight retroſpect which would afford at once an uſeful, entertaining, and inſtructive miſcellany. Yet notwithſtanding, of ſuch we have few or none, and why?—becauſe, ſad to tell, the means of their ſupport would be inadequate to the hopes of their ſucceſs.

Finally, to arouſe Iriſh genius from its fatal ſlumbers, to diſpel the odium under which our preſs has ſo long languiſhed, to excite its feeble embers into action, or even aſſiſt to relume them, ſuch are objects of the moſt important concern, and have nearly baffled the exertions of thoſe who have conceived the meritorious taſk of reſcuing us from oblivion.

Such are the cauſes to which, I think, may be principally attributed the general ignorance in which we unfortunately labour, and which, until fully removed, will never ceaſe to produce thoſe bad effects.

Were I not influenced by the moſt ſtrict impartiality and adherence to truth, and alſo by the moſt ſtriking object of compariſon, it would be with reluctance I would draw ſo gloomy a picture, and would rather diminiſh than increaſe its ſhades, were it not that this object of compariſon is conſtantly preſented to our eyes, and only ſeparated from us by thoſe billows, which equally leave the borders of our naturally happy iſle; and were I not convinced, that bleſt as it is by the choiceſt gifts of Heaven, it might attain that weight in the ſcale of nations, and that rank and independence in itſelf, as would render it the ſource of envy, as it has been that of contempt, to not only its ſiſter, but neigbouring kingdoms, that it might fully extricate itſelf from thoſe miſts through which it is now ſtruggling, and finally reſcue itſelf from that oblivion, into which the lapſe of ages has too long lulled us.

T. C. S.

Method of curing Damp Walls, by the Application of a Compoſition, the Invention of a Mr. Charles Wilſon, for which the London Society of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce, complimented him with a Premium of Ten Guineas. [From the Tranſactions of the Society, Vol. XXIV.]

THE following communications were received from mr. Wilſon: and ſpecimens of the compoſition may be ſeen in the ſociety's repoſitory.

'SIR,

'I beg leave to lay before the ſociety of arts, &c. a cement, which, I truſt, will be found of great utility in curing damp walls, in flooring damp kitchens and for various other purpoſes, where the prevention of wet is neceſſary. This cement, when put in water, will ſuffer neither an increaſe nor diminution in its weight; and it has the peculiar advantage of joining Portland ſtone, or marble, ſo as to make them as durable as they were prior to the fracture.

Receipt for making the Cement.

Boil two quarts of tar with two ounces of kitchen greaſe for a quarter of an hour, in an iron pot. Add ſome of this tar to a mixture of ſlaked lime and powdered glaſs, which have paſſed through a flour ſieve, and been dried completely over the fire in an iron pot, in the proportion of two parts of lime, and one of glaſs, till the mixture becomes of the conſiſtence of thin plaſter. The cement muſt be uſed immediately after being mixed; and therefore it is proper not to mix more of it at a time than will coat one ſquare foot of wall, ſince it quickly becomes too hard for uſe, and continues to increaſe its hardneſs for three weeks. Great care muſt alſo be taken to prevent any moiſture from mixing with the cement. For a wall which is merely damp, it will be ſufficient to lay on one coating of the cement,

about

about one eighth of an inch thick; but ſhould the wall be more than damp, or wet, it will be neceſſary to coat it a ſecond time. Plaſter, made of lime, and plaſter of Paris, may be afterwards laid on the cement.

London Faſhions.

BODY and petticoat of white thin ſatin, with ſleeves of the ſame laid in plaits, and the body to correſpond: the ſleeves are trimmed with fine white ſilk lace, or ſwanſdown; over the whole a Turkiſh veſt of brown muſlin or crape, without ſleeves: a ſatin ribbon of the ſame colour runs all round the veſt, at a little diſtance from the edges: cap of crimſon velvet, made in the Auſtrian ſtyle, ornamented with a narrow ſilver trimming, and terminating in a point, with a ſilver taſſel on the right ſide. Hair dreſſed plain in front, with a few ſpiral curls on the left ſide. White kid ſhoes and gloves.

An Italian robe of blue muſlin or crape, the ſleeves and front trimmed with white ſatin ribbon, and ornamented with fancy broaches; the robe trimmed all round with a broad white ſatin ribbon; cap of white ſatin intermixed with lace footing, and trimmed with narrow ſhaded ribbon, and a plaiting of net round the front. India ſcarf ſhawl, faſtened to the back of the robe, by a broach, and hanging down in front. Hair dreſſed as above deſcribed.

Pariſian Faſhions.

KERSEMERE dreſſes, of a ſilver grey, are now much worn: they have ſquare lapels and black velvet collars, with a deep cape *à la pelerine*. The vandyke frill plaited *à la queen Elizabeth* is almoſt general. Hunting bonnets ſimilar to the kerſeymere dreſſes, and bound with black velvet, bows and ends in front trimmed to correſpond, are in great vogue. The hair is uſually dreſſed in confined curls. Shoes of crimſon velvet.

The Downhill of Life. A Viſion.

'He that firſt ſins, like him that treads on ice,
Slides cautious down the ſlippery paths of vice;
He ſlides on cautious, till his fears got o'er,
He ſlides on ſwiftly, and looks back no more.'

DRYDEN.

SITTING one cold and gloomy day by the fire-ſide, revolving the many moving accidents and hair-breadth 'ſcapes human nature is liable to, Morpheus gently touched my eyelid with his ebon wand, and preſented the following viſion to 'my mind's eye.'

Methought I ſtood on an exceeding high hill. A plain but elegant ſtructure roſe before me, from which iſſued hundreds of youth of both ſexes: they were juſt emancipated from the reſtrictions of their governors, and 'gay hope was theirs, by fancy dreſſed.' On each ſide of the porch ſtood two women of uncommon height and beauty; the name of the one was Virtue, the other was called Religion. At parting, Virtue embraced her pupils, and cautioned them to treaſure in their memory the leſſons ſhe had inculcated. Religion alſo preſented each with a thick volume, which ſhe commanded them to peruſe with the utmoſt diligence, nor ſuffer a day to elapſe without conſulting its holy pages. 'This book,' continued Religion, 'is an unerring guide: if you follow its inſtructions you can never deviate; it will be your counſellor in difficulties, your ſupport in danger, comfort in ſickneſs, your triumph in death, and your ſure paſſport to immortal happineſs.' All promiſed to remember the many kind leſſons of their firſt inſtructors, and began their journey with alacrity.

The

The road, for the first few miles, appeared most charming. Is was an easy declivity of green, embroidered with fragrant flowers of the most vivid colours, and interfected with pleasant cool springs. The sun shone uncommonly bright; the birds sung melodiously; every face wore the smile of expectation, every eye beamed with rapturous hope. But after a while the way became less pleasant; the descent was steep, and in many places exceedingly dangerous. Many stumbled and fell, and rose no more. Others, affrighted at the horrid prospect, and dispirited at the sudden reverse, threw themselves down the precipice, and were dashed to pieces.

One charming maid I observed walk alone, with sober pace, over the enamelled lawn. Her face was dazzlingly beautiful, and the symmetry of her person exquisite; her fine arms clasped to her lovely bosom the volume given her by Religion. She had been less elated by the pleasures of the first part of the journey, and appeared less depressed by the disagreeable reverse than most of her companions. When her feet became defiled with the dust and dirt of the way, or torn by the rugged stones which in many places stuck up with sharp points, she would stop, and, washing them with her tears, dry them with the redundant tresses of her golden hair, and after reading a little in her book, proceed with an air of contentment and chearfulness. While so engaged, she frequently became the object of derision to the passers by: but their sarcasms had no effect on the mind of Innocence (for that was the maiden's name). I observed, that she was particularly careful to preserve her garments free from soil; they were white, and spotless as the unsullied snow. After descending for some time with much toil and care, a pipe and tabor struck on her ear: she looked on one side, and in a green lane beheld several lovely shepherdesses with their swains dancing, while their flocks peacefully grazed by their side. The scene appeared as one cheerful and innocent. She stood for a moment irresolute whether to enter this charming place, or pursue the rugged but straight forward path. While she deliberated, a youth of an engaging figure approached, and desired her to join the happy dancers. Innocence, without answering, opened her book and read, 'Flee youthful lusts.' She immediately turned her back, and again began to descend. The youth followed, imploring her to stop. Innocence turned her head, pleased with the beauty of her pursuer, did as she was desired. Now whether it was owing to the impetuosity of the youth or to the slippery ground on which she stood I know not, but poor Innocence fell! The beautiful robe, which had been preserved with so much care spotless, was contaminated by the filth of the place (for it happened on a very dirty spot). Her exertions joined to those of her companions were ineffectual to remove the stains; they remained indelible. From that time, she appeared more anxious to conceal the spots already acquired than careful of adding more.

The youth, whose name was Manfredo, led Innocence to a neat handsome building by the road side, where they were joined together by a small but very strong link of gold. Innocence here lost her name, and was afterwards distinguished by that of Matena.

One thing surprised me much. Manfredo, though he had been very assiduous to repair the soiled robe of Innocence, and had seemed much distressed at her misfortune, now, as they journeyed together, would frequently hold up the spots to Matena's view, when nobody was near. This I thought very ungenerous, as it was entirely his fault that it became soiled; and it so much incensed Matena,

tena, that ſhe ruſhed to the houſe of Vanity, which ſtood a little on the left-hand out of the way, and there purchaſed a changeable robe of Faſhion, who was the journey woman of Vanity. Attired in this, her boſom bare to ſighing gales, her long golden hair braided with gems, ſhe came forth a moſt ſparkling figure, and attracted the eyes of her fellow travellers, to the evident diſſatisfaction of Manfredo. The way too became particularly laborious and diſagreeable. Matena, wholly occupied in admiring the elegance of her appearance, and watching the admiration it excited, heeded not her footſteps, but frequently ſtumbled, and received ſerious hurt by her falls, yet acquired no caution by her misfortunes, tho' hundreds who walked by her ſide, with their eyes fixed on diſtant objects, fell into ſome ſmall chaſms in the earth, were covered up, and ſeen no more. Manfredo and Matena appeared totally unconſcious of their fate, though they knew not but the next ſtep might precipitate them alſo in one of thoſe unobſerved pits. They were entirely occupied in deviſing means to lengthen the golden link which bound them, that they might roam at greater diſtance from each other. They had collected a quantity of gilt copper, and formed a kind of chain; and as it allowed a greater latitude for their ſeveral fancies, and as they had contrived to cover the copper with a few ſickly flowers, they were ſatisfied, and imagined that the cheat would paſs on others. Thus they proceeded till they had reached about the middle of the deſcent, when the whole attention of Manfredo became riveted on a number of beautiful nymphs dancing in the ſhade to the moſt delightful airs, with matchleſs grace and ſpirit. His heart panted to be with them: he caſt a look on Matena—ſhe obſerved him, and with one bound he ſprang over the hedge, and was received in the arms of the ſmiling nymphs. Matena, without immediately obſerving the departure of her companion, walked on till ſhe arrived at a moſt ſumptuous palace. The air was perfumed with aromatics. Magnificent fountains caſt up little rivers of the cleareſt waters to the ſky, that were again received in large baſons of virgin marble.—Bowers of full-blown roſes, myrtle, and jaſmine elegantly entwined, invited the feet of the weary traveller to reſt, while the luxurious grape, the bluſhing orange, the fragrant muſk-melon, which hung on all ſides, promiſed a refreſhing and delicious repaſt. The doors of this enchanting palace were of maſſy ſilver, and ſtood wide open. The ſofteſt muſic, accompanied by the moſt exquiſite voices, was heard; and between every houſe the gay laugh of mirth reſounded through the high-arched roof. Matena turned round, intending to conſult with Manfredo whether they ſhould enter this charming place, as the open door ſeemed to invite. She was ſurpriſed at his abſence, but the grief ſhe would have experienced at his deſertion at any other time was now ſuperſeded by her curioſity; and ſhe determined to enter, not doubting but when Manfredo ſhould arrive there he alſo would enter, and find her in the charming palace.

The reſolution was no ſooner formed than adopted; but in her haſte to enter, ſhe dropped the volume given her by Religion, which hitherto ſhe had preſerved with ſo much care, and which had formerly been ſuch a comfort to her. Unconſcious of her loſs, ſhe eagerly preſſed forward to view the interior of a palace, of which the ſmalleſt appendage denoted ſplendour and elegance beyond imagination. In a magnificent ſaloon, ſhe beheld a ſparkling company of youth of both ſexes. Some were dancing, others were

ſinging

finging the ſongs of mirth, and all were amuſing themſelves in whatever took their fancy, and indulging the whim of the moment, however abſurd. They received Matena with ſhouts of welcome, inviting her to partake of their amuſement. The unthinking Matena complied, and entered with ſpirit into all their diverſions. Yet often would her mind wander back on the path of duty ſhe had quitted; often would the ſigh of regret agitate her boſom, on recollecting that the rugged path muſt yet be trodden, in ſpite of delays and procraſtination; and that the time ſhe was then ſo idly waſting, ſo foolihly miſapplying, would one day be required at her hands with a terrible exactitude; when no excuſes would be accepted, no palliations allowed. She would often riſe to depart, but as inſtantly reſeat herſelf. The pleaſures which ſurrounded her appeared too great, too various, to quit ſuddenly and voluntarily, and ſhe promiſed that the morrow ſhould witneſs her departure. To-morrow came and went, yet Matena ſtill lingered in the ſhades of pleaſure.

One evening, after a day ſpent in voluptuous gratification, Matena retired with a youth who had been her partner in the feſtive dance to a cloſe arbour of eglantine and tube-roſes. The moon caſt a ſoft light on the ſurrounding orangery; the dathing of a diſtant water-fall ſoothed the ear of night; while Matena, her ſoul enervated by tumultuous pleaſures, ſat leaning her head on the treacherous boſom of her companion, liſtening with guilty attention to his falſe blandiſhments; when ſuddenly Manfredo ſtood before them, his face inflamed with paſſion. With ſtrong effort he broke the chain which united them, and tauntingly throwing the gilt part at the weeping Matena, himſelf retaining the golden, departed from her for ever. Poor Matena, left alone (for her gay companions had fled on the firſt appearance of danger), was wholly abſorpt in the deepeſt melancholy. She ſhed the bitter tears of poignant regret, and gave way to the torturing ſighs of deſpair. The moon became obſcured by black clouds, the thunder roared, the lightning quivered on the ground, and the heavens poured down rivers on the ſweeping, the expoſed, the miſerable deſpairing Matena.

At laſt, morning appeared. Matena aroſe from the ground, and, caſting a fearful glance around, beheld the late beautiful proſpect laid waſte —the blooming honours of the grove ſcattered, and the lofty pine of the foreſt laid low. With a hurried trembling ſtep ſhe left the bowers of pleaſure, nor ſtopped till ſhe had gained the ſtraight-forward path of duty.

But, alas! the chearful alacrity with which ſhe had once trod this path was gone for ever! Self-upbraidings and conſcious guilt corroded her inmoſt ſoul, and embittered every moment of her exiſtence. Did a ſhady bower invite her to reſt her weary feet, ſhe entered it but to weep, and was ſoon obliged to hurry onwards, to regain the time waſted in the palace of diſſipation. The book given her by religion would on thoſe occaſions have been a ſeaſonable relief, but that ſhe had loſt. Affliction preſented her a black robe; and clothed in this, without a ſingle companion but her own ſad thoughts, ſhe deſcended the remainder of the hill. Her feet became weak, and often lacerated by the rugged way—when ſhe ſuddenly arrived at a black river, whoſe ſullen waves laved the bottom of the hill. Over this river was no bridge—and Matena ſat down on its gloomy banks, patiently to await the hour when the waves ſhould riſe and ſweep her from the land of ſorrow. While ſhe ſat weeping, a bright cloud deſcended, and Religion again ſtood

before

before her pupil, She looked with compaſſion on the miſerable Matena: her eye beamed pity, and in her hand ſhe bore the volume formerly diſregarded by Matena. From its ſacred page ſhe reproved, ſhe exhorted, ſhe comforted the fainting ſpirit of Matena, who at her command cheerfully approached the brink of the black river, and while ſhe fixed her eyes on her beloved monitor, the river ſuddenly roſe, and its obvious waters cloſing over her, ſhe was loſt to my ſight! 'Alas! child of ſorrow,' I exclaimed aloud, 'is this the end of thy painful journey, and that horrid river the termination of thy troubles? Surely, in ſpite of thine errors, thy repentance deſerved a better fate.'

Religion turned on me a reproving eye. 'Forbear, raſh mortal,' ſaid ſhe, 'to meaſure infinite wiſdom by finite. The child of ſin and ſorrow is at reſt.' But Matena had been taught that the firſt falſe ſtep can never be retrieved. Yet ſhe turned aſide to contemplate forbidden pleaſures; and though ſhe regained the path of duty, and ſet her hand to the plough, yet ſhe looked back with a deſiring eye. She ſtopped when ſhe ought to have *run*, and ſuffered the deſtroyer to overtake her. She ſelected a partner from the ſons of Diſobedience. She became enamoured of Vanity, and allied herſelf to Perdition. She forſook the paths of Wiſdom, and forgot the law of her God. But ſhe was not permitted to periſh, as many do, in the palace of Pleaſure, or bowers of Diſſipation. The thunder mercifully awoke her from her dream of fancied happineſs, and warned her of the danger of procraſtination. The reſt of the way was watered by the tears of Repentance; but happy was Matena that ſhe had time allowed her to repent. Her errors were many, her ſins flagrant: but Heaven was merciful, and ſhe is now enjoying that pure felicity which kingdoms cannot purchaſe nor mortals merit, but which is freely given to the child of repentance. Religion then touched my eyes with her finger, and the thick miſt which enveloped the river cleared up. I ſaw Matena riſing from its black waves, renovated in youth and beauty. The robe of innocence again covered her ſhoulders, and floated in many a graceful fold around her feet. On her head was a crown of gold, ſparkling as the morning ſtar. A thouſand harmonious voices hailed her arrival; a thouſand bright forms with golden harps rejoiced over her, and bore her with ſongs of triumph to the Moſt High, as a ſinner who had repented of the errors of her ways.

The glory was too ſtrong for my weak ſight: I awoke, and found myſelf ſitting in my arm-chair by a cheerful blazing fire.

SOPHIA TROUGHTON.

Anecdote of General Bennigſen.

ABOUT two years and a half ago, the general dined at Wilna, with dr. Frank, a celebrated phyſician reſiding in that city. The converſation having turned upon the abilities of Bonaparte, general Bennigſen obſerved, that he had attentively ſtudied his different campaigns, that he had traced that general thro' the plans of all his battles, and that it appeared to him they were generally almoſt the ſame. "He copies himſelf too much," ſaid Bennigſen, "and were I ever to command a gainſt him, I flatter myſelf, (without incurring the imputation of vanity), that I ſhould be able to contend with him. It is a circumſtance which can never take place," ſaid he, "I ſhall never be in that ſituation, but I feel a conviction that I ſhould be able to defeat this terrible antagoniſt." That this was not an ebullition of raſhneſs or preſumption, the events of the laſt three months have well proved.

SIR HOME POPHAM'S TRIAL.

(Continued from page 240.)

BUT, sir, though the admiralty chose not to express the smallest approbation of the conduct of the naval force at the late reduction of the Cape, permit me to remark to the court, that in acknowledging the receipt of my dispatches relating to that event, they on the very same day acknowledge to me the receipt of another letter, inclosing a copy of one of which I had received from that active and able officer captain Donnelly, then of the Narcissus (giving an account of his having driven on shore a French privateer) and in making this acknowledgement, they desire me to acquaint him that their lordships highly approve of his conduct on that occasion.

'Must it not appear to this honourable court, and to the world at large, not a little extraordinary, that the same admiralty board which could liberally bestow their applause on the conduct of the captain of a frigate in the destruction of an insignificant French privateer, could withhold their approbation from another officer who commanded a squadron of his majesty's ships, and all those who had acted under him, and were employed in the capture of a settlement deemed so important in a military, political, and commercial point of view, as the Cape of Good Hope.

'The capture of the Cape, with reference to the thanks of parliament, so gratifying to those who receive them (to which it would be presumption in me to suppose I had any claim,) I may venture, I believe, to state that this is the first instance of a capture of this description having been made by a joint armament, in which some expression of approbation, at least from the lords of the admiralty, has not been bestowed on those of the navy who have successfully performed their orders.

'For it must be recollected, that as to the Cape at least the orders were specific and precise; and those concerned in the enterprise were engaged in the strict performance of their duty. And here sir, I may be allowed to remark, that the withholding from those under my command, this national and invariable reward of zeal, valour, and perseverance, successfully exerted in their country's cause, was to them the more mortifying, as the army, in whose efforts and gallantry they fully participated, were cheered by the approbation of their superiors, and had the consolation of being informed, that their labours and success were acceptable to those in whose approbation they look for encouragement and reward.

'On this occasion, I hope it will not appear vanity on my part, to shew the different light in which our conversations were received by the governor general and council in India, who were pleased to transmit to me flattering testimonies of their approbation.

'To myself and my associates, some of whom had engaged most actively in the service on shore, and all of whom had exerted themselves in the landing and assisting the troops with that ardour and perseverance so characteristic to British seamen, of which I had, as their commander, endeavoured to do justice, not one solitary expression of approbation was, as the court have seen, communicated in the answer of the admiralty.

'Yet I am to be condemned for having exposed even to imaginary hazard, that acquisition which appears not to have been worth those thanks of our superiors—the value of which, though so easy and cheap for them to bestow, I need not expatiate upon in a court of British officers, whose actions and whose lives would be to the world the best proof of the estimation in which they are justly held. The importance of the capture was passed over in silence, when I and those employed under me might have been gratified; but it is loudly enhanced, and made the subject of a criminal charge, when the object is to depress me. Whence this difference? I leave it, gentlemen, to your reflections—I leave it to the reflections of my country.

'By permission of the court, I shall next proceed to shew, as I have already done in part, that whatever dissatisfaction the admiralty board (which had succeeded to that board under whose orders I sailed from England) thought proper to manifest for my having exercised my own discretion, in undertaking the subsequent expedition to the Rio de la Plata, yet my conduct in the execution of that enterprise was such as to draw from them the most unqualified approbation, as appears from the letter of the 25th of September, which I have already read in my defence.

'The natural inference to be drawn from the perusal of that letter is, that the admiralty board, at the time when it was written, considered my recal as a sufficient mark of their disapprobation of my having left the Cape with my squadron, and attacked Buenos Ayres, without orders. But the panegyric passed on my conduct and those under my command, strongly marks the high opinion entertained of the conquest—for if mr. Marsden's letter of the 25th of September acknowledging the receipt of my account of the surrender of Buenos Ayres and its dependencies be compared with his letter in answer to mine of the 23th of January, announcing

announcing to him the capture of the Cape, it is fair to infer, from the circumſtance of the admiralty board having expreſſed their unqualified approbation of my conduct in the conqueſt of Buenos Ayres, and of their having withheld from me every ſign of ſatisfaction, in regard to my proceedings in the reduction of the Cape, that in their eſtimation of the comparative importance to the country of the two places, they ſet a much higher value on the acquiſition of Buenos Ayres than on that of the Cape.

'But ſir, if my ardent zeal for the ſervice of my country has, in the opinion of any of the members of this hon. court, carried me beyond the exact limits of unreſtrained inſtructions, I ſubmit that I have already ſuffered a more than adequate puniſhment, not merely by having been deprived of my late command, but from the degrading manner in which I was ſuperceded, and recalled, as muſt appear to this honourable court, when they find that my ſolicitation for the uſe even of a tranſport, was peremptorily refuſed, and that I was left to take my paſſage to England in a ſmall prize brig, with the aggravating circumſtance of the few men of the ſquadron put on board to navigate this veſſel home being taken from her by the orders of my ſucceſſor, admiral Stirling, to whom, I was ſcarcely known and to whom, therefore, I could never have given perſonal offence. For the proof of theſe facts, I refer to the evidence of captain King.

'Whether the perſons who gave theſe orders, or the admiral who executed them, thought they were the beſt means of upholding the character of a Britiſh officer commanding in chief, or whether they or he judged it was the moſt proper method of ſhewing others their extent of power, I will not preſume to determine, but of conduct ſo unuſual, ſo unprecedented, and ſo unhandſome, I aſſure myſelf no member of this court, nor any other perſon now preſent, can recollect an inſtance. Humble, however, as my accommodation was, and expoſed as I was to capture, in a veſſel without a ſingle gun to defend her, I reached this country without accident. The delay of admiral Stirling's arrival in the Rio de la Plata, owing to the very unuſual length of his paſſage, I ſhall always conſider as a providential circumſtance; for I can aſſert without fear of contradiction, that his orders were to evacuate the ſettlement, and, but for this circumſtance, which afforded time for the arrival of the Pheaſant ſloop with counter orders, South America would have been abandoned; whereas I may now ſafely venture to predict, that the arrival of the force under general Achmuty has long ſince repaired the misfortune which befel my gallant friend general Beresford, by putting the Britiſh in poſſeſſion of Monte Video, and I truſt not only reſcued that diſtinguiſhed officer and his brave men from the hands of the enemy, but puniſhed the perfidy of thoſe men, who whilſt on their parole of honour, and in the complete enjoyment of perſonal liberty, violated the one, and availed themſelves of the other, to combine means for the attack, in which they unhappily ſucceeded.

'Having developed in the moſt fair, candid, and I truſt, reſpectful manner, the motives which urged me to proceed to the attack of the Spaniſh ſettlement on the Rio de la Plata, I now beg leave to call the attention of this honourable court to the conſequences which have already enſued from this expedition.

'In the firſt place, then, I humby preſume that it is but fair to infer that his majeſty's government, notwithſtanding the change which had occurred among its members, highly approved of the enterprize, from the energy by which they are following it up, even at this very moment, when I am vindicating my conduct in having undertaken it without poſitive orders. The more they reflect on the advantages which this country might derive from the acquiſition of thoſe valuable poſſeſſions, the more do they augment the means of inſuring the conqueſt to which I have directed their attention. Were this not the fact, why, I would aſk, have his majeſty's miniſters ſince formed with that view armaments more than adequate to the taſk of conquering all the Spaniſh poſſeſſions on the eaſt coaſt of South America? Thoſe extenſive armaments either already gone, or on the point of ſailing to complete the great object which I had ſucceſsfully begun, though with means comparatively ſo trifling, and which being merely a removal of the ſquadron from a ſtate of inactivity to enterprize, was attended with no additional expence to the country.

'I am naturally led to the above concluſions by the mode in which the board of admiralty has ſhaped the charge. I am not accuſed of having with inadequate means, and with inſufficient preparation undertaken the attack on Buenos Ayres. The reaſons for this will appear obvious when I come to comment, as I ſhall now do on the inſtructions to general Achmuty, the officer ſent out to proſecute the enterpriſe that I had ſo happily begun and which officer, as already appeared in the court, was recommended to his majeſty's miniſters by general

neral Baird, as a proper perſon to be employed on this ſervice.

'In theſe inſtructions to general Achmuty, a copy of which was tranſmitted to the ſenior naval officer in the Rio de la Plata, and which I am prepared to prove from a copy given me by the admiralty, the utmoſt anxiety is expreſſed by his majeſty's preſent miniſters, in the event of any misfortune having happened to general Beresford, to obtain ſuch a footing on the continent of South America, either in the ſame or ſome adjacent part, as may enable him, general Achmuty, to wait for the arrival of a further force, and that force conſiſting of three thouſand men, which is ſtated not to have been intended originally as a reinforcement to general Beresford, but for a ſervice of very conſiderable importance, but which he is authoriſed to detain until his object is obtained, and in a preceding part of his inſtructions general Achmuty is enjoined not too haſtily to abandon the attempt of gaining a footing in South America.

'Is it poſſible for me to avoid feeling or expreſſing ſome ſatisfaction, when I reflect that notwithſtanding the reverſe of fortune which had occurred, I had anticipated not only the wiſhes of the laſt, but alſo of the preſent adminiſtration, that I had ſecured a very ſtrong poſition, ſuited to the views of his majeſty's government, and had thus obtained a firm footing on the continent of South America; that general Achmuty would find the object of his expedition in a great meaſure completed before his arrival; and the three thouſand men deſtined to another object of very conſiderable importance, would be in conſequence, at liberty to purſue their original deſtination.

'If then, this force, deſtined for an object ſo highly important in the opinion of his majeſty's miniſters, was thus ordered to be diverted from the purſuit of that object, in order to ſuccour general Beresford, and in the event of having been obliged to ſurrender, to enable general Achmuty to follow up the enterpriſe, for having undertaken which I am now arraigned, and to uſe his utmoſt endeavours to eſtabliſh himſelf in ſome part of the coaſt of South America —of how much greater importance muſt not the acquiſition of a ſecure poſt on the Rio de la Plata (and eſpecially one ſo tenable as that of Maldonada) be conſidered by thoſe ſame miniſters!

'Never, ſir, would I for a moment contend that ſucceſs could juſtify neglect or breach of duty; but, conſcious as I am that I am not open to ſuch a charge, it is impoſſible for me not to feel gratified in reflecting on the circumſtance which I have juſt ſtated.

'Moreover, ſir, the proclamation iſſued on the 17th September, 1806, ſufficiently ſhews the encouragement which the members of his majeſty's government were anxious to give to the ſpirit of our commercial men, depreſſed beyond example at the unprecedented meaſures taken to exclude their exports from the continent of Europe, and the readineſs with which they were pleaſed to meet my ideas on this particular point, by inviting all Britiſh ſubjects to trade with Buenos Ayres and the other ſettlements in the Rio de la Plata, under the favour of his majeſty's ſaid proclamation.

'In regard to the value attached to the conqueſt of Buenos Ayres, in a political point of view, and which, as I have before obſerved, was one of the principal motives that urged me to undertake the enterprize, I cannot indicate its importance more clearly and undeniable, than by quoting to the court the language uſed by lord Lauderdale, his majeſty's plenipotentiary at Paris during his nogociation for peace, to monſieur Talleyrand, the French miniſter for foreign affairs. In a note written by lord Lauderdale to the ſaid miniſter, on the 9th day of September, 1806, his lordſhips ſays —'When the underſigned reflects that he 'came to Paris authoriſed to conclude peace 'upon terms underſtood to have been pro-'poſed by France; that, notwithſtanding 'the refuſal of his imperial majeſty of all 'the Ruſſias to ratify the treaty ſigned by 'm. d'Oubril, and the *ſplendid ſucceſſes ob-'tained by his majeſty's arms in South Ame-'rica*, he was authoriſed to give aſſurances '(as he had the honour of doing to his ex-'cellency the miniſter of foreign affairs) 'that the demands of his court in its own 'favour, would not, in conſequence 'of theſe ſucceſſes, be materially increaſ-'ed.'

'Is not this, I aſk, language of which I have reaſon to be proud, inaſmuch as it conveys, in a manner the moſt direct, and unqualified, the opinion entertained by his majeſty's government of the ſucceſſes, in the plan and accompliſhment of which I bore ſo active and ſo conſiderable a ſhare? If lord Lauderdale calls the ſucceſſes *ſplendid*, in an official note to the French miniſter, ſurely it will not now be contended, that they were not ſo conſidered by that cabinet which deputed him to negotiate the late projected treaty of peace; and though his lordſhips adds, that the demands of his court in its favour would not, in conſequence of theſe ſucceſſes, be materially increaſed, yet this tone of moderation diminiſhes not their ſplendour, nor does it in the ſmalleſt degree, detract from the merit of thoſe by whom they were achieved. In

fine,

fine, whatever difference of opinion may exiſt reſpecting the policy of extending our colonial conqueſts, there ſeemed to me but one ſentiment entertained by his majeſty's government, and by the country at large, in regard to the well-timed acquiſition of Buenos Ayres; which, in the intended pacification of Europe, was, it is evident, of ſufficient weight to incline the political balance ſtill more in favour of England.

'Sir, if that negociation had terminated in a peace upon terms honourable and advantgeous to Great Britain, it will not be denied that the character of thoſe terms would have been influenced, at leaſt in ſome degree, to the ſucceſs of his majeſty's arms in South America.

'I now beg to advert to the papers of the 14th and 24th Sept. and 21ſt Nov. and the 20th September, which have been lately introduced into the charge. The latter I never ſaw or heard of until read in court; nor was I informed until my arrival at Portſmouth, that any of theſe papers were to be brought againſt me. The object of this attempt was, I preſume to ſhew the ſentiments of the government under whoſe orders I ſailed, on the ſubject of the future deſtination of my force. My proſecutors knew that I never received any of theſe papers, as the Peter packet in which they were put was captured, and the Thalia which conveyed the others never went to the Cape.

'Sir, the ſubſequent opinion of the government founded alſo on ſubſequent and haſty, and as it afterwards appeared, inaccurate information, could not in any caſe be evidence againſt me, or implicate me in having uſed my force as I did, having, as it had been ſhewn, no orders for my deſtination after the capture of the Cape, more particularly on the poſſibility of ſuch a deſtination as if proved to have been the wiſh of the government at that time, in certain events, could not in the moſt diſtant way have been in contemplation when I ſailed, and the poſſibility of which I could not ſuſpect.

'The correctneſs or impropriety of my conduct muſt depend on that which I either knew, or was bound to preſume, or ſuppoſe, might have been the with of the government under whoſe orders I ſailed, and thoſe wiſhes I have, I truſt, ſufficiently developed.

'In addition to which I might obſerve, that theſe orders could not operate againſt me in another point of view, before I could by any poſſibility have received them. I knew that the intelligence on which they were founded were wholly falſe, and that peace had been made in India, in proof of which I beg leave to read general Baird's letter to mr. Windham, in anſwer to the diſpatches which he received on this ſubject.

Cape Town, May 27, 1806.

Sir—I have had the honour of receiving by his majeſty's ſhip the Adamant, the duplicate of a diſpatch from lord viſcount Caſtlereagh, bearing date the 10th of September, 1806, and conveying to me his majeſty's commands to detach from this colony, ſuch a portion of the troops under my command as might be neceſſary for the ſecurity of the Britiſh poſſeſſions in India.

I am moſt happy to repeat, that the general tranquillity which now reigns in that quarter will render it unneceſſary for me to make ſuch detachment.

I have the honour to be, &c.

D. BAIRD.

Rt. Hon. W. Windham, &c. &c.

'The receipt of theſe orders, therefore, having thus come to my hands, could not have operated upon my conduct, but poſſibly might, as before mentioned, have corroborated my determination in giving reaſon to ſuppoſe that for any great and important object, the withdrawing part of the force from the Cape would not be a meaſure likely to excite the diſpleaſure of government.

'Before I conſider I muſt complain of the mutilated ſtate in which the admiralty board has preſented to the public my letter of Sept. laſt, giving an account of the recapture of Buenos Ayres. Moſt unfavourable opinions and prejudices have been excited againſt me by their mutilation; in fact, ſeveral perſons called on me for an explanation of the laſt mentioned letter. I am compelled to notice the circumſtances, not only in juſtice to myſelf, but alſo to that gallant officer general Beresford, who I truſt has long ſince been releaſed from captivity, through the ſucceſs of his majeſty's arms. This compariſon can only be made by reading my original letter, and the publication of it in the gazette.

'I have now ſtated all which occurs to me as neceſſary to ſay before the court on the ſubject of my conduct as an officer, with reference to the military queſtions which ariſe upon it; one ſubject, however, for obſervation ſtill remains, and it is one that deeply intereſts my character and feelings, and upon which I owe to accident and good fortune, that I am in poſſeſſion of evidence, notwithſtanding I left the Rio de la Plata without the leaſt ſuſpicion of being called upon to appear before a court martial.

'I am aware, ſir, that my juſtification has already extended to a great length, yet as I conceive it to be incumbent on me to

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omit no circumſtance that can at all tend to illuſtrate the views which influenced my conduct during the expedition to the Rio de la Plata, I muſt ſolicit the indulgence of the court, while I ſtate as briefly as poſſible, a few facts which may ſerve to ſhow that in the whole courſe of my proceedings, as commanding officer of the ſquadron in that river, I was never actuated by any ſelfiſh conſideration, but that, from the time of the ſurrender of Buenos Ayres to his majeſty's arms, until the period of its being wreſted from our poſſeſſion, I made every ſacrifice which might convince the world in general, that the good of my country was my ſole object in having undertaken this expedition without poſitive orders. I am the more anxious to eſtabliſh this, becauſe I have had the mortification to hear it ſaid ſince my return, that ſordid, inſtead of honourable motives, operated to induce me to undertake this expedition. I am proud to have it in my power, not only to reſcue my own character in this reſpect, but to prove that I have not diſgraced the profeſſion to which I belong, by permitting unworthy motives to operate on my conduct as an officer. I ſhould not have wanted precedents for to bear me out, even in ſuch a conduct; but though I have quoted precedents for my juſtification as to the exerciſe of my diſcretion, I ſhould diſdain to avail myſelf even of the ſame authority to palliate cupidity or injuſtice. In proof of my conduct in this reſpect, permit me, ſir, to recal to the attention of the court, that immediately on the ſurrender of Buenos Ayres, all the property afloat, contained in upwards of 110 veſſels, to the amount of upwards of a million and a half of dollars, was given up to the proprietors by proclamation; an evident proof of my ſincere inclination to conciliate the minds of the inhabitants of every deſcription, and to convince them that the expedition was undertaken with views diametrically oppoſite to thoſe which attach to a predatory incurſion. If it ſhould be ſuggeſted that I could not have manned even a very ſmall proportion of thoſe veſſels, I would reply, that I might have diſpoſed of them at an inferior price to their reſpective proprietors.

'Such was my conduct at the time of the ſurrender of that town, and on a contemplation of every event which might happen from the interior of the country, although I had then no reaſon to apprehend that an attempt would be made to diſlodge from it the Britiſh forces, I acted with the ſame diſintereſted regard to the public ſervice, in relation to large quantities of quickſilver and bark, to the amount of upwards of three millions of dollars, in ſmall and very convenient packages, which were in the caſtle near the quay, and might have been embarked in the courſe of three or four days, but I would not ſuffer any of the valuable merchandize whatever, which might be conſidered as appertaining to the captors, to be ſhipped, before the ſquadron ſhould be completely victualled, in order that I might be enabled more effectually to blockade the river in caſe of a reverſe of fortune; and the whole of which property was ultimately recovered by the enemy; moreover, I propoſed to the captains and officers of the ſquadron, and it was generally agreed that we ſhould preſent to government whatever armed veſſels might be captured, and be deemed fit for his majeſty's ſervice.—Among theſe was the Neptune, a fine ſhip of twenty guns, which had been formerly a Liverpool privateer, and had been taken by the Spaniards, together with ſeveral large armed ſchooners and gun veſſels. In ſhort, on all occaſions I inculcated and enforced, both by precept and example, the doctrine of ſacrificing private advantage to the public good, and of regulating our proceedings by what might appear moſt for the honour and glory of the Britiſh nation. I am moſt happy in this opportunity of reſcuing my character in this public manner, and by evidence before the court, from the imputations which have been caſt upon it in this reſpect.

'I have at length concluded the ſtatement of facts, and the obſervations which were neceſſary to enable the court to form a competent judgment of my caſe, and by which I have been unavoidably obliged to occupy a conſiderable portion of your time. It may, however, be ſaid, that in my letter to the admiralty, I did not fully detail all the motives which had led to my undertaking the attack of Buenos Ayres.

'If the ſtatement of theſe reaſons ſhould appear leſs ample and leſs detailed than thoſe which I am now laying before the court, it is becauſe I conceive that I was addreſſing them to thoſe with whoſe general views and intentions on this ſubject I was already acquainted, and who were well aware of the inducement to this undertaking. From thoſe by whom my letters were in fact received, no intimation ever reached me, that theſe reaſons were inſufficient, nor has any ſupplementary explanation been required. I have already ſaid that I did not receive any intimation of an intention to call me to an account. I regret the ſilence of the admiralty towards me in both theſe particulars; had they called for my juſtification at an earlier period, it might, perhaps have ſatisfied them that there was no ground for

for bringing me before this tribunal, and at all events, the notification of the deſign to accuſe me, would have given a fair and ſurely not too favourable a warning to me, to return prepared with all the means of my defence. Sufficient means I hope I have in the ſtatements and evidence which I ſubmit to you, but it is a little hard to be deprived of the teſtimony of thoſe who, having been witneſs of my conduct during the whole of my command, might depoſe moſt powerfully in my vindication, and this loſs, which I cannot think accidental, I owe to the ſilence of the admiralty.

'Before I finally cloſe, I muſt ſhortly revert to the point moſt important, becauſe it does not apply to my caſe only, but to that of every officer in the navy, I mean of the diſcretionary uſe of authority without preciſe orders. Indeed, if an officer commanding in foreign parts is never to avail himſelf of information which he may receive, never to uſe his own diſcretion, or to undertake an expedition againſt the enemy's poſſeſſions, without preciſe and immediate orders from home, which cannot arrive until the moment for action ſhall have elapſed—If he is to be ſo ſtrictly and permanently bound by the letter of inſtructions under which he ſailed from England, that even after the full and happy accompliſhment of the object to which theſe inſtructions were directed, he ſhall not be at liberty to undertake and accompliſh any other, however within his reach, however important in itſelf, or in its conſequences, however pointed out to them by new information and by increaſed facilities, and however nearly connected in many important points of view, with that which he was originally ſent to accompliſh; if this is to be the rule and limit of an officer's exertions in a ſituation of ſuch truſt and confidence, the reſult will, I confidently foretell, be ruin to the Britiſh navy. It will lead to the entire ceſſation of all acts of enterprize, and to the total extinction of that daring ſpirit which has ſo long bid defiance to all oppoſition, becauſe an officer will be deterred by the reflection, that for venturing to attack or annoy the enemies of his country, without poſitive inſtructions, his conduct may be prejudged by a ſuperior authority at home, and (as in the order for holding the preſent trial) it may be ſtigmatized *as a flagrant breach of public duty, that ſhould not paſs unpuniſhed.*

'I muſt now, ſir, before I end my defence, and put myſelf upon the judgment of the court, draw your attention, in a few words, to what I humbly conceive are the points of your conſideration.

'On your deciſion now depends the future conduct and enterprize of the navy of Great Britain, always bearing in mind that I ſtand before you not for having failed in the fulfilment of orders, but for having done more than my ſtrict duty againſt the common enemy. The intereſt I have in the reſult, deep as it is, is trifling, compared with that which muſt be felt by every officer in the navy; I may ſay by the nation at large.

'As on the one hand, you are called upon to conſider, and decide upon my caſe, ſo as not to ſanction, or authorize by your judgment, a lax interpretation, or careleſs execution, or neglect of orders;—ſo on the other hand, you are called upon by a due regard to the intereſts of the navy of Great Britain, and as involved in their intereſts, the ſafety and independence of a nation, which looks up to that navy for protection, not to check that energy and ſpirit of enterprize, which if checked by an unfavourable ſentence on me, and by ſuch a court, and ſo compoſed, may not eaſily be revived. I conſider myſelf as an humble individual, ſtanding before you on a charge deeply affecting my character, but more deeply affecting the future intereſts of the navy.

'My caſe muſt be decided on the general principles, totally unconnected with any feelings which relate to me perſonally, and it is for you, ſir, and the honourable members of this court to determine—whether an officer, circumſtanced as I was, employed as I have been on previous occaſions, led on by a ſingular and connected chain of circumſtances, to conſider this enterprize as a favourite object, not of my own ambition, but of the wiſhes of a great and diſtinguiſhed miniſter, on whoſe approbation would have followed not merely protection, but probably commendation, money, and rewards; having been originally and ſo lately appointed to carry into execution, diverted from it only by my own ſuggeſtion of an intermediate expedition, having a full and confidential knowledge of all the circumſtances which for a time delayed the execution, and bearing in a diſtant part of the world, without means of immediate communication, that all theſe obſtacles had been done away; having alſo means at my diſpoſal, adequate, as I thought, to the end, and believing in the then ſtate of Europe, and particularly of my country, the immediate execution of this plan was moſt important—it is for you, gentlemen, to ſay, under all theſe circumſtances, whether I am not to ſtand excuſed for having hazarded this exerciſe of diſcretion.

'In your hands I put with confidence my caſe, ſatisfied that the importance of it, and the attention I have received, will in-

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ſure to me the benefit of all the circumſtances I have ſtated, and of the arguments I have urged. On theſe grounds I humbly hope and truſt that I ſhall receive from the juſtice of the court an honourable acquittal.'

Sir Home Popham having cloſed his obſervations, the names of the ſeveral witneſſes were called over by the deputy judge advocate. And having anſwered to their names, they were ordered to retire, until they ſhould be ſeverally called upon by the court.

Examination of Witneſſes.

Lord viſcount Melville ſworn and examined by ſir Home Popham.

Q. Will your lordſhip have the goodneſs to relate to the court all the communications I had with mr. Pitt and your lordſhip, collectively or individually, on the ſubject of an expedition to South America, as far as your recollection may ſerve you? A. Soon after I came to the head of the board of admiralty, I had occaſion to learn, that the adminiſtration preceding that of which I had the honour to form a part, had ſome converſation with general Miranda, relative to ſome projects he had entertained with reſpect to South America. I did not immediately give much attention to it, becauſe, not being then at war with Spain, I did not think how, conſiſtently, the government of this country could take any active part. In the ſummer 1804, I had little doubt, from the official ſituation I held at the board of admiralty, and from communications I had occaſion to hold with the heads of other public departments, that ſuch a war ſhould ſoon take place; I therefore thought it my duty, through ſir E. Nepean, ſir H. Popham, and others, whom I had reaſon to believe were acquainted with the particulars upon this ſubject under the former adminiſtration, to inform myſelf more minutely relative to the views and projects of general Miranda. I likewiſe had more than one confidential communication with him, and the reſult of my opinion was, that although it might not be wiſe or expedient, or perhaps, within the means of this country, at that time, to commit themſelves to the full extent of his projects, it was of the utmoſt importance to this country, ſo far to watch the progreſs of his operations, as to make uſe of them, if they could be made ſubſervient to the purpoſes of opening the ports of South America, to the trade and manufactures of this country; I had almoſt daily communications, both in town and at Wimbledon, with mr. Pitt, and the heads of the then adminiſtration; and the ſubject was more familiar to me, becauſe for many years back, particularly in 1796, I had occaſion to conſider it very maturely, with a view of preparing, in concert with the then board of admiralty, operations againſt South America, on a very extenſive ſcale. I was then ſecretary of ſtate for the war department. In conſequence of the converſations I had with mr. Pitt as already mentioned, in October or November, nearly about the time the war broke out with Spain, and the capture of four Spaniſh frigates, I deſired ſir Home Popham to attend me, in order that he might be at hand to attend mr. Pitt and myſelf, at any time that we wiſhed to conſult him: and I think about the ſame time, the ſhip Diadem being vacant, I wrote a letter to ſir Home Popham, dated, Nov. 1, 1804, ſtating that gen. Miranda now being more urgent with me, as he thought we were at war with Spain, to commence an attack on Spaniſh America; and not knowing any thing more convenient to place ſir Home in, than the Diadem, the letter directed him, if the weather was fair, to come up. This letter was not ſigned by the official ſecretary, but by myſelf. I had many communications with him, and in conſequence of daily communications I had with mr. Pitt on this ſubject; theſe communications continued during the remaining period I was at the head of the admiralty. I ceaſed to be at the head of that ſituation immediately after the 8th of April, 1805. After that, I had many interviews with mr. Pitt, until our final ſeparation at Bath, in the beginning of the year 1806; but from the time I ceaſed to be his colleague in office, I made it an invariable rule to avoid all converſation with him upon all ſubjects of a public or confidential nature, ſo that, from my own knowledge, I can ſpeak to nothing after the 8th April, 1805.

Q. Does your lordſhip recollect directing me to attend mr. Pitt, at Wimbledon, in 1804, when we diſcuſſed all Miranda's views, when there was no perſon preſent but yourſelf and him? A. I perfectly recollect ſuch a circumſtance and interview, but cannot ſpeak to the preciſe period.

Q. Was it on the day of the night mr. Pitt went to Weymouth to the king? A. Very likely, as he went from my houſe.

Q. Does your lordſhip recollect, after converſing with mr. Pitt on that ſubject, as to the readieſt way to forward the views of general Miranda, mr. Pitt's directing me to draw up a ſpecific memoir, in concert with him, explaining all the views of general Miranda, from time to time, communicated to me, and delivering it to mr. Pitt, through him, or by myſelf? A. I recollect, perfectly, receiving ſuch a memorial;

al; and, wiſhing to know the extent of his views; but certainly avoided to commit myſelf, or the Britiſh government beyond the object I have already ſtated, relative to South America; upon which ſubject I certainly entertained a moſt anxious wish, almoſt all the time, until I had occaſion to take the public ſervice under my more immediate conſideration. And that anxiety never diminiſhed, but much increaſed, in conſequence of all the events which, for ſome years paſt had taken place in the Eaſt Indies, the Weſt Indies, and, above all on the continent of Europe.

Q. In conſequence of your lordſhip's great preſſure of buſineſs, it is poſſible you may not recollect all the circumſtances of the whole ſubject, ſo well as myſelf, who had nothing elſe to think on; but you may recollect employing me to draw up ſuch a memoir?—A. I certainly did employ you ſo to do.

Q. Does your lordſhip recollect, that when you did me the honour to appoint me to the Diadem, it was for the purpoſe of proſecuting ſome part of the plan mentioned in the ſaid memoir?—A. When ſir Home Popham was appointed to the Diadem, it was for the purpoſe of co-operating with general Miranda, in ſuch objects, mentioned in the memoir, as might be conducive to the intereſts of Great Britain.

Q. Does your lordſhip recollect, ſo far as to bring it into your contemplation, whether the ſeaſon was ſo far advanced; that the part in which I was to be particularly employed, was to reſtrict me to the particular object of the Cape, to allow me a diſcretion of proſecuting other objects, with a view to open the markets in South America?—A. I know that the great object was to open the markets in South America, but cannot ſpeak as to general details; but circumſtances occur to my mind, that the buſineſs was not then ſo far advanced as to be the ſubject of detailed inſtructions. It occurs to me, at this moment as not improbable that the coaſt of South America, in the vicinity of Trinidad, was at one time looked upon as a probable ſcene for operations.

Q. On hearing of the capture of Buenos Ayres, did your lordſhip conſider it as an acquiſition materially advancing the great object mr. Pitt and your lordſhip had in view, with reſpect to South America?

Mr. Jervis objected to the queſtion; but the court conſidered it as a mere matter of opinion, and over-ruled the objection.

Sir Home Popham obſerved, that by the queſtion, he only meant to prove the opinion of the cabinet, as to the original plan of attacking South America, and the deſign to follow up that intention.

Mr. Jervis ſaid, that it was quite ſufficient for him, that the court diſapproved of his objection, to induce him to relinquiſh it.

A. No doubt the capture of Buenos Ayres was highly beneficial to the object we had in view; but I am by no means ſure, if I may not have taken that impreſſion from the poſitive circumſtance of Buenos Ayres having been one of the ſpecific objects in view, when the armament was in contemplation in 1796. I remember there was an armament in contemplation, which was to go round Cape Horn, and to take Buenos Ayres, in its way.

Q. Does your lordſhip recollect my having been confidentially employed both in the late and preſent was, by different members of the cabinet?—A. I certainly know that ſir Home Popham was employed confidentially by the different members of the cabinet he alludes to.

Q. Does your lordſhip recollect, that in my being employed in confidential ſervices, circumſtances aroſe, which were not provided for in my inſtructions, nor indeed could they be; and that, under theſe circumſtances, I exerciſed very large diſcretionary powers, in the attainment of the great object for which we were employed. I particularly allude to one of my miſſions to the court of St. Peterſburgh?

Mr. Jervis objected to the queſtion, upon the grounds that the priſoner ſought to infer, that becauſe he had upon other occaſions exerciſed an enlarged diſcretion, he was therefore warranted to do it upon the preſent occaſion.

Sir Home Popham, 'I uſed it to ſhew that I was meeting the object of the government by whom I was employed, and a juſtification for my deviation from my inſtructions.'

The preſident, 'You have no occaſion to trouble yourſelf; as having before exerciſed a large diſcretion, you had a reaſonable right to preſume that the exerciſe of a large diſcretion in this caſe was admiſſible. It is the buſineſs of ſir Home Popham to ſhew that officers generally had exerciſed a diſcretionary power under ſuch circumſtances.'

Lord Melville—'I am afraid, in anſwering this and other queſtions, I may be led to diſcloſe confidential matters, which ſhould not be made public; but I may give a general anſwer, that ſir Home Popham has been confidentially employed, and received the full approbation of the government.'

(To be continued.)

Journal of the Proceedings of the First Session of the Third Parliament of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. *(Continued from page 247.)*

HOUSE OF LORDS.

March 2.

LORD GRENVILLE delivered a meſſage from his majeſty, reſpecting the treaty of peace with the king of Pruſſia; and that his majeſty's miniſters having agreed to an advance of 80,000l. to his Pruſſian majeſty, he expected the houſe to make good the ſame.

3. After a few words from lord Grenville, an addreſs on his majeſty's meſſage was agreed to, *nem. diſ.*—The South ſea navigation bill was read a ſecond time, and the hearing of counſel on the part of the petitioners was negatived.

9. Some bills were forwarded; and counſel were heard in appeals.

10. In a committee of privileges it was declared that mr. C. A. Ellis's claim to the Howard de Walden peerage was juſtified, and a deciſion was made accordingly.

A memorial having been received relative to the Scotch judicature bill, the houſe reſolved that it ſhould be returned, to be moulded into the form of a petition.

12. Lord Holland preſented ſeveral petitions from inſolvent debtors in the fleet and other priſons; and ſome routine buſineſs was diſpoſed of.

13. The Sierra Leone transfer bill was read a third time and paſſed; and the Scotch judicature bill was read a ſecond time.

16. The loan and Iriſh aſſeſſed taxes bills were read a third time and paſſed.

The mutiny bill was ordered to be printed. In a committee on the Scotch judicature bill, a long diſcuſſion on the defects of the Scotch laws took place. Lords Melville, Mansfield, and Eldon, ſpoke againſt the intended alteration; and an amendment by the duke of Montroſe, to divide the bill into two bills, was negatived.

17. The royal aſſent was given by commiſſion to the loan, brandy duty, South ſea navigation, German yarn, Iriſh revenue, and ten private bills.

The marine mutiny bill was read a third time and paſſed.

18. Lord Grenville moved, that the ſlave abolition bill, as amended by the commons, ſhould be printed, and taken into conſideration, if poſſible, on Monday. Ordered.

The houſe was occupied the remainder of the day, in hearing various opinions on the Scotch judicature bill.

20. The mutiny bill received ſeveral amendments.

23. The ſugar bounty and ſeveral private bills received the royal aſſent.

A petition from the Weſt India merchants againſt the ſlave trade abolition bill, was ordered to lie on the table.

The amendments made by the commons in the ſlave trade bill were then read and agreed to.

24. The Iriſh ſpirit licenſe bill was read a third time and paſſed.

25. The royal aſſent was given to the ſlave trade abolition, and ſeveral other bills; after which the houſe went into a committee on the Scotch judicature bill.

26. On a motion by lord Hawkeſbury, that the houſe do adjourn to Wedneſday ſe'nnight.

Lord Grenville ſaid he found himſelf called upon to make ſome alluſion to the cauſes which had produced the late change in his majeſty's councils. He conſidered that his character had ſuffered by the miſrepreſentations which had gone abroad; in conſequence of which he felt it his duty to preſent a petition to his majeſty for leave to vindicate his conduct. He adverted to the ſentiments of meſſrs. Pitt and Fox, which, on the catholic queſtion, were the ſame as his own; and he could not conceive how any one, who underſtood the intereſts of the country, could oppoſe it. He continued to enlarge on this ſubject, and mentioned the various efforts that he had made to promote the objects of the catholics, though againſt the ſenſe of the majority of that houſe. He never intended to preſs any meaſure reſpecting conceſſion toward the catholics, unleſs neceſſity had required it; and no idea had ever been held out to them that there was any objection to what they expected. But he conſidered that the catholics had acted highly injurous to their own intereſts, by imprudently bringing forward the queſtion of emancipation as they had lately done; nevertheleſs, it was thought adviſable to conciliate them in ſome manner, by ſuggeſting the meaſure which had engaged the attention of the other houſe. His lordſhip then deſcanted upon the reſtrictions to which the catholics in the army and navy had been ſubjected for the laſt 14 years, and contended that it was ridiculous for any ſtateſman to object to advancing the catholics to commiſſions in the army and navy; and if conceſſions were made to the catholics in the happier days of 1793, the reaſons were infinitely ſtronger for increaſing them at preſent. The bill which had lately cauſed ſuch concern, was opened by lord Howick on the 4th of March; and it was not until the 11th that ſome miſconception exiſted. On that day he learned that his ma-

jesty's consent would be withheld. Nothing more passed than expressions of disapprobation on one side, and of concord on the other. Much discussion took place on the next day among those who were friendly to the measure. They found they had proposed a measure not agreeable to his majesty, and they came to a resolution, for which he did not know that they were perfectly excusable, to withdraw parts of the bill, and to submit it with modifications. They proposed to his majesty to be allowed to modify the bill to that of 1793, a proposal which was received with gracious condescension. Upon reflection, they found that the difficulty respecting the *dissenters* was unsurmountable, and accordingly they stated in writing, that as they could not alter the bill as they wished, they requested that they might be permitted to drop it altogether. Perhaps they had gone too far in consenting to drop a measure which they conceived necessary for the safety of the empire. His answer was, that they wished to accomodate their conduct to the feelings of his majesty. The measure, however, was before parliament, where it received the warm approbation of many persons, and it was out of their power to stop the discussion. It was not to be expected that it would be allowed to drop without discussion, and without ministers being called upon to account for their conduct. Had they allowed the bill to drop, still the measure would have come before parliament in another shape, and they would be obliged to state why the same conciliating policy, which they recommended out of office, was not followed when they were in. They therefore felt it *indispensably necessary*—he would use the very words which they employed—humbly to submit to his majesty a representation as to their future conduct. They did not, in the words of the libel which had been circulated respecting this transaction, state, that they must reserve to themselves the liberty of *submitting to his majesty such measures as they thought necessary* with respect to the catholics, but of submitting them to his majesty *for his decision*. He concluded with observing, that with respect to Ireland, if any other system was adopted there than that which was so happily pursued by lord Hardwicke, and the duke who had succeeded him, that country would be in imminent danger. If ever those religious animosities were revived, which had produced such extraordinary exertions of the authority of government, it would, he feared, be impossible again to allay and compose them.

Lord chancellor Erskine said, he considered the subject of the catholic question as completely irrelevant as any other whatever to the late change in his majesty's councils, although it happened to be the subject which led to such a conjuncture. Although a member of the late government, he was decidedly adverse to the measure, and should not have advised it, because he did not see the political necessity for it which had induced the great majority of his colleagues to recommend it to his majesty; yet he thought they were highly commendable, and only doing their duty in giving his majesty such advice as they in their conscience thought just; as well as in declining to be bound by any pledge to refrain from giving to their sovereign upon this, or any subject, such advice as they conceived to be just. The firmness with which his majesty had maintained his own conscientious opinions, by assisting the bill in the extent to which it went, had also his respectful approbation; but he must say, that his colleagues did right in declining to be bound never again to advise the measure under any possible pressure of circumstances. At the moment when his majesty's late ministers relinquished the bill, in concession to his majesty's scruples, they stood in the same situation as upon their first accession to office. They knew his majesty's feelings. His majesty was aware that their sentiments were in favour of the concession. But their dereliction of the measure at that time, in deference to the royal opinion, was a tacit pledge that they would not again press it, unless under some extraordinary circumstances which might render it more urgently necessary. Had it pleased his majesty then to await for this experience in the conduct of his ministers, and to see if they again endeavoured to press forward the measure, or submit it to parliament; and if they did contrary to his majesty's wishes, they would have merited dismissal. The right of his majesty to change his ministers no man could deny; but to have remained in power, or accept office, upon any such condition as the pledge alluded to, was, in his opinion, contrary to every principle of ministerial duty, and directly in violation of the constitution. Had the business ended with the abandonment of the bill, by the late administration, the catholics would only have to say, they had been abandoned by their friends, and would have still cherished the hope of being more fortunate at some future period. But by the dismissal of those friends from the councils of their sovereign for no other reason than their declining to pledge themselves never again, under any circumstances, to allude to the question, or any thing connected with it, upon his majesty's mind, they would be taught to consider, that the principle just declared by the noble earl (Buckinghamshire) of never granting

granting any farther concession to the catholics, was to be a part of the system of government; what the result of such conviction would be, he did not wish even to conjecture.

Lord Sidmouth expressed his opinion, that any concession toward the catholics, instead of preventing discontent, would promote it; and that if the appetite for power of these persons were fed, they would never be satisfied until they had devoured the established church, and perhaps the constitution. He would take his stand at the spot where it was left by the union; and though he had shown an abhorrence of setting up a standard for difference of opinion, yet he did feel what was due to the establishment of the country, and he would not expose it to danger, as he conceived would be the case, by increasing the power of the Roman catholics.

Lord Hawkesbury followed on the same side, and in a long speech contended that the measure proposed was both objectionable and unnecessary.

Lord Moira spoke in favour of some conciliatory measures towards Ireland; and observed, that with proper encouragement that country could produce 100,000 disposable troops, besides those already engaged.

Lord Melville (from the ministerial bench) justified the conduct of his majesty. He considered the measure proposed as unnecessary, and that the peace of Ireland might be secured without such concessions. If the late servants of the crown would not comply with the wish of their royal master, others would be found, who, by conciliatory measures, would advert the calamities which were apprehended. Under the circumstances now explained, a very natural alarm for the welfare of his subjects was excited in the breast of his majesty: and he had no alternative but to call those ministers to his councils, who, in duty and conscience, coincide with him on a subject that he considers so essential to the peace and prosperity of the empire.

Lord Holland justified the conduct of the late ministry, and contrasted the conduct of the Russian government, which allowed people of all sects to hold the highest commissions in its army.

Lord Caernarvon, the earl of Buckinghamshire, and lord Erskine, severally spoke in favour of the conduct of the late ministry; and the question of adjournment was then put and agreed to.

The marquis of Stafford then rose, and gave notice of his intention to bring forward a question on that day, upon the subject of the dismissal of his majesty's late ministers, and moved that their lordships be summoned for that day.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

February 25.

LORD Folkestone presented a petition from mr. Paull, complaining of the return of mr. Sheridan for Westminister. The petition referred to an instance of corruption; a person named Drake having been offered a situation abroad for certain offices relative to the election: it also charged mr. S. with a conspiracy to keep witnesses out of the way while the petition was pending.—It was ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Sheridan expressed himself in indignant terms at the nature of the petition, every word of which he declared to be a falsehood.

Lord Howick advised lord Folkestone to move for a committee of privileges on the subject; but lord F. said, his object was to get witnesses to the bar, and fixed his motion on that point for Monday.

Sir T. Turton moved for the production of papers relative to the assumption of the government of the Carnatic. He observed, that the late nabob died in 1800, since which his son and heir had been excluded from the throne, and a more remote heir placed on it. Mr. Sheridan brought forward a motion on this subject some time since, and he was at a loss to conceive what could have induced him to decline proceeding. After several remarks on the importance of ascertaining with whom this innovation rested, he moved that the papers now before the house on this subject should be printed.

Mr. Sheridan said, he had already given his reasons for not proceeding farther in the business; but that he should give sir Thomas his sincere support.

Sir J. Anstruther opposed the motion; and desired to know whether the mover wished to impeach marquis Wellesley or lord Clive? There ought to be an end put to such inquiries, as the discussions would shake the allegiance of those who heard of them.

After several members had expressed their opinions on the subject, the question was carried.

26. Lord Folkestone moved that the notice of a motion for considering the petition relative to the Westminster election be changed into an order of the day, and that the petition be considered on Monday.—Ordered.

Mr. Sheridan said, that on Monday he should present a petition to prove subornation

al; and, wiſhing to know the extent of his views; but certainly avoided to commit myſelf, or the Britiſh government beyond the object I have already ſtated, relative to South America; upon which ſubject I certainly entertained a moſt anxious wiſh, almoſt all the time, until I had occaſion to take the public ſervice under my more immediate conſideration. And that anxiety never diminiſhed, but much increaſed, in conſequence of all the events which, for ſome years paſt had taken place in the Eaſt Indies, the Weſt Indies, and, above all on the continent of Europe.

Q. In conſequence of your lordſhip's great preſſure of buſineſs, it is poſſible you may not recollect all the circumſtances of the whole ſubject, ſo well as myſelf, who had nothing elſe to think on; but you may recollect employing me to draw up ſuch a memoir?—A. I certainly did employ you ſo to do.

Q. Does your lordſhip recollect, that when you did me the honour to appoint me to the Diadem, it was for the purpoſe of proſecuting ſome part of the plan mentioned in the ſaid memoir?—A. When ſir Home Popham was appointed to the Diadem, it was for the purpoſe of co-operating with general Miranda, in ſuch objects, mentioned in the memoir, as might be conducive to the intereſts of Great Britain.

Q. Does your lordſhip recollect, ſo far as to bring it into your contemplation, whether the ſeaſon was ſo far advanced, that the part in which I was to be particularly employed, was to reſtrict me to the particular object of the Cape, to allow me a diſcretion of proſecuting other objects, with a view to open the markets in South America?—A. I know that the great object was to open the markets in South America, but cannot ſpeak as to general details; but circumſtances occur to my mind, that the buſineſs was not then ſo far advanced as to be the ſubject of detailed inſtructions. It occurs to me, at this moment as not improbable that the coaſt of South America, in the vicinity of Trinidad, was at one time looked upon as a probable ſcene for operations.

Q. On hearing of the capture of Buenos Ayres, did your lordſhip conſider it as an acquiſition materially advancing the great object mr. Pitt and your lordſhip had in view, with reſpect to South America?

Mr. Jervis objected to the queſtion; but the court conſidered it as a mere matter of opinion, and over-ruled the objection.

Sir Home Popham obſerved, that by the queſtion, he only meant to prove the opinion of the cabinet, as to the original plan of attacking South America, and the deſign to follow up that intention.

Mr. Jervis ſaid, that it was quite ſufficient for him, that the court diſapproved of his objection, to induce him to relinquiſh it.

A. No doubt the capture of Buenos Ayres was highly beneficial to the object we had in view; but I am by no means ſure, if I may not have taken that impreſſion from the poſitive circumſtance of Buenos Ayres having been one of the ſpecific objects in view, when the armament was in contemplation in 1796. I remember there was an armament in contemplation, which was to go round Cape Horn, and to take Buenos Ayres, in its way.

Q. Does your lordſhip recollect my having been confidentially employed both in the late and preſent was, by different members of the cabinet?—A. I certainly know that ſir Home Popham was employed confidentially by the different members of the cabinet he alludes to.

Q. Does your lordſhip recollect, that in my being employed in confidential ſervices, circumſtances aroſe, which were not provided for in my inſtructions, nor indeed could they be; and that, under theſe circumſtances, I exerciſed very large diſcretionary powers, in the attainment of the great object for which we were employed. I particularly allude to one of my miſſions to the court of St. Peterſburgh?

Mr. Jervis objected to the queſtion, upon the grounds that the priſoner ſought to infer, that becauſe he had upon other occaſions exerciſed an enlarged diſcretion, he was therefore warranted to do it upon the preſent occaſion.

Sir Home Popham, 'I uſed it to ſhew that I was meeting the object of the government by whom I was employed, and a juſtification for my deviation from my inſtructions.'

The preſident, 'You have no occaſion to trouble yourſelf; as having before exerciſed a large diſcretion, you had a reaſonable right to preſume that the exerciſe of a large diſcretion in this caſe was admiſſible. It is the buſineſs of ſir Home Popham to ſhew that officers generally had exerciſed a diſcretionary power under ſuch circumſtances.'

Lord Melville—'I am afraid, in anſwering this and other queſtions, I may be led to diſcloſe confidential matters, which ſhould not be made public; but I may give a general anſwer, that ſir Home Popham has been confidentially employed, and received the full approbation of the government.'

(To be continued.)

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HOUSE OF LORDS.

March 2.

LORD GRENVILLE delivered a meſſage from his majeſty, reſpecting the treaty of peace with the king of Pruſſia; and that his majeſty's miniſters having agreed to an advance of 80,000l. to his Pruſſian majeſty, he expected the houſe to make good the ſame.

3. After a few words from lord Grenville, an addreſs on his majeſty's meſſage was agreed to, *nem. diſ.*—The South ſea navigation bill was read a ſecond time, and the hearing of counſel on the part of the petitioners was negatived.

9. Some bills were forwarded; and counſel were heard in appeals.

10. In a committee of privileges it was declared that mr. C. A. Ellis's claim to the Howard de Walden peerage was juſtified, and a deciſion was made accordingly.

A memorial having been received relative to the Scotch judicature bill, the houſe reſolved that it ſhould be returned, to be moulded into the form of a petition.

12. Lord Holland preſented ſeveral petitions from inſolvent debtors in the fleet and other priſons; and ſome routine buſineſs was diſpoſed of.

13. The Sierra Leone transfer bill was read a third time and paſſed; and the Scotch judicature bill was read a ſecond time.

16. The loan and Iriſh aſſeſſed taxes bills were read a third time and paſſed.

The mutiny bill was ordered to be printed. In a committee on the Scotch judicature bill, a long diſcuſſion on the defects of the Scotch laws took place. Lords Melville, Mansfield, and Eldon, ſpoke againſt the intended alteration; and an amendment by the duke of Montroſe, to divide the bill into two bills, was negatived.

17. The royal aſſent was given by commiſſion to the loan, brandy duty, South ſea navigation, German yarn, Iriſh revenue, and ten private bills.

The marine mutiny bill was read a third time and paſſed.

18. Lord Grenville moved, that the ſlave abolition bill, as amended by the commons, ſhould be printed, and taken into conſideration, if poſſible, on Monday. Ordered.

The houſe was occupied the remainder of the day, in hearing various opinions on the Scotch judicature bill.

20. The mutiny bill received ſeveral amendments.

23. The ſugar bounty and ſeveral private bills received the royal aſſent.

A petition from the Weſt India merchants againſt the ſlave trade abolition bill, was ordered to lie on the table.

The amendments made by the commons in the ſlave trade bill were then read and agreed to.

24. The Iriſh ſpirit licenſe bill was read a third time and paſſed.

25. The royal aſſent was given to the ſlave trade abolition, and ſeveral other bills; after which the houſe went into a committee on the Scotch judicature bill.

26. On a motion by lord Hawkeſbury, that the houſe do adjourn to Wedneſday ſe'nnight.

Lord Grenville ſaid he found himſelf called upon to make ſome alluſion to the cauſes which had produced the late change in his majeſty's councils. He conſidered that his character had ſuffered by the miſrepreſentations which had gone abroad; in conſequence of which he felt it his duty to preſent a petition to his majeſty for leave to vindicate his conduct. He adverted to the ſentiments of meſſrs. Pitt and Fox, which, on the catholic queſtion, were the ſame as his own; and he could not conceive how any one, who underſtood the intereſts of the country, could oppoſe it. He continued to enlarge on this ſubject, and mentioned the various efforts that he had made to promote the objects of the catholics, though againſt the ſenſe of the majority of that houſe. He never intended to preſs any meaſure reſpecting conceſſion toward the catholics, unleſs neceſſity had required it; and no idea had ever been held out to them that there was any objection to what they expected. But he conſidered that the catholics had acted highly injurous to their own intereſts, by imprudently bringing forward the queſtion of emancipation as they had lately done; nevertheleſs, it was thought adviſable to conciliate them in ſome manner, by ſuggeſting the meaſure which had engaged the attention of the other houſe. His lordſhip then deſcanted upon the reſtrictions to which the catholics in the army and navy had been ſubjected for the laſt 14 years, and contended that it was ridiculous for any ſtateſman to object to advancing the catholics to commiſſions in the army and navy; and if conceſſions were made to the catholics in the happier days of 1793, the reaſons were infinitely ſtronger for increaſing them at preſent. The bill which had lately cauſed ſuch concern, was opened by lord Howick on the 4th of March; and it was not until the 11th that ſome miſconception exiſted. On that day he learned that his ma-

jeſty's conſent would be withheld. Nothing more paſſed than expreſſions of diſapprobation on one ſide, and of concord on the other. Much diſcuſſion took place on the next day among thoſe who were friendly to the meaſure. They found they had propoſed a meaſure not agreeable to his majeſty, and they came to a reſolution, for which he did not know that they were perfectly excuſable, to withdraw parts of the bill, and to ſubmit it with modifications. They propoſed to his majeſty to be allowed to modify the bill to that of 1793, a propoſal which was received with gracious condeſcenſion. Upon reflection, they found that the difficulty reſpecting the *diſſenters* was unſurmountable, and accordingly they ſtated in writing, that as they could not alter the bill as they wiſhed, they requeſted that they might be permitted to drop it altogether. Perhaps they had gone too far in conſenting to drop a meaſure which they conceived neceſſary for the ſafety of the empire. His anſwer was, that they wiſhed to accomodate their conduct to the feelings of his majeſty. The meaſure, however, was before parliament, where it received the warm approbation of many perſons, and it was out of their power to ſtop the diſcuſſion. It was not to be expected that it would be allowed to drop without diſcuſſion, and without miniſters being called upon to account for their conduct. Had they allowed the bill to drop, ſtill the meaſure would have come before parliament in another ſhape, and they would be obliged to ſtate why the ſame conciliating policy, which they recommended out of office, was not followed when they were in. They therefore felt it *indiſpenſably neceſſary*—he would uſe the very words which they employed—humbly to ſubmit to his majeſty a repreſentation as to their future conduct. They did not, in the words of the libel which had been circulated reſpecting this tranſaction, ſtate, that they muſt reſerve to themſelves the liberty of *ſubmitting to his majeſty ſuch meaſures as they thought neceſſary* with reſpect to the catholics, but of ſubmitting them to his majeſty *for his deciſion*. He concluded with obſerving, that with reſpect to Ireland, if any other ſyſtem was adopted there than that which was ſo happily purſued by lord Hardwicke, and the duke who had ſucceeded him, that country would be in imminent danger. If ever thoſe religious animoſities were revived, which had produced ſuch extraordinary exertions of the authority of government, it would, he feared, be impoſſible again to allay and compoſe them.

Lord chancellor Erſkine ſaid, he conſidered the ſubject of the catholic queſtion as completely irrelevant as any other whatever to the late change in his majeſty's council, although it happened to be the ſubject which led to ſuch a conjuncture. Although a member of the late government, he was decidedly adverſe to the meaſure, and ſhould not have adviſed it, becauſe he did not ſee the political neceſſity for it which had induced the great majority of his colleagues to recommend it to his majeſty; yet he thought they were highly commendable, and only doing their duty in giving his majeſty ſuch advice as they in their conſcience thought juſt; as well as in declining to be bound by any pledge to refrain from giving to their ſovereign upon this, or any ſubject, ſuch advice as they conceived to be juſt. The firmneſs with which his majeſty had maintained his own conſcientious opinions, by aſſiſting the bill in the extent to which it went, had alſo his reſpectful approbation; but he muſt ſay, that his colleagues did right in declining to be bound never again to adviſe the meaſure under any poſſible preſſure of circumſtances. At the moment when his majeſty's late miniſters relinquiſhed the bill, in conceſſion to his majeſty's ſcruples, they ſtood in the ſame ſituation as upon their firſt acceſſion to office. They knew his majeſty's feelings. His majeſty was aware that their ſentiments were in favour of the conceſſion. But their dereliction of the meaſure at that time, in deference to the royal opinion, was a tacit pledge that they would not again preſs it, unleſs under ſome extraordinary circumſtances which might render it more urgently neceſſary. Had it pleaſed his majeſty then to await for this experience in the conduct of his miniſters, and to ſee if they again endeavoured to preſs forward the meaſure, or ſubmit it to parliament; and if they did contrary to his majeſty's wiſhes, they would have merited diſmiſſal. The right of his majeſty to change his miniſters no man could deny; but to have remained in power, or accept office, upon any ſuch condition as the pledge alluded to, was, in his opinion, contrary to every principle of miniſterial duty, and directly in violation of the conſtitution. Had the buſineſs ended with the abandonment of the bill, by the late adminiſtration, the catholics would only have to ſay, they had been abandoned by their friends, and would have ſtill cheriſhed the hope of being more fortunate at ſome future period. But by the diſmiſſal of thoſe friends from the councils of their ſovereign for no other reaſon than their declining to pledge themſelves never again, under any circumſtances, to allude to the queſtion, or any thing connected with it, upon his majeſty's mind, they would be taught to conſider, that the principle juſt declared by the noble earl (Buckinghamſhire) of never granting

granting any farther conceſſion to the catholics, was to be a part of the ſyſtem of government; what the reſult of ſuch conviction would be, he did not wiſh even to conjecture.

Lord Sidmouth expreſſed his opinion, that any conceſſion toward the catholics, inſtead of preventing diſcontent, would promote it; and that if the appetite for power of theſe perſons were fed, they would never be ſatisfied until they had devoured the eſtabliſhed church, and perhaps the conſtitution. He would take his ſtand at the ſpot where it was left by the union; and though he had ſhown an abhorrence of ſetting up a ſtandard for difference of opinion, yet he did feel what was due to the eſtabliſhment of the country, and he would not expoſe it to danger, as he conceived would be the caſe, by increaſing the power of the Roman catholics.

Lord Hawkeſbury followed on the ſame ſide, and in a long ſpeech contended that the meaſure propoſed was both objectionable and unneceſſary.

Lord Moira ſpoke in favour of ſome conciliatory meaſures towards Ireland; and obſerved, that with proper encouragement that country could produce 100,000 diſpoſable troops, beſides thoſe already engaged.

Lord Melville (from the miniſterial bench) juſtified the conduct of his majeſty. He conſidered the meaſure propoſed as unneceſſary, and that the peace of Ireland might be ſecured without ſuch conceſſions. If the late ſervants of the crown would not comply with the wiſh of their royal maſter, others would be found, who, by conciliatory meaſures, would advert the calamities which were apprehended. Under the circumſtances now explained, a very natural alarm for the welfare of his ſubjects was excited in the breaſt of his majeſty: and he had no alternative but to call thoſe miniſters to his councils, who, in duty and conſcience, coincide with him on a ſubject that he conſiders ſo eſſential to the peace and proſperity of the empire.

Lord Holland juſtified the conduct of the late miniſtry, and contraſted the conduct of the Ruſſian government, which allowed people of all ſects to hold the higheſt commiſſions in its army.

Lord Caernarvon, the earl of Buckinghamſhire, and lord Erſkine, ſeverally ſpoke in favour of the conduct of the late miniſtry; and the queſtion of adjournment was then put and agreed to.

The marquis of Stafford then roſe, and gave notice of his intention to bring forward a queſtion on that day, upon the ſubject of the diſmiſſal of his majeſty's late miniſters, and moved that their lordſhips be ſummoned for that day.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

February 25.

LORD Folkeſtone preſented a petition from mr. Paull, complaining of the return of mr. Sheridan for Weſtminiſter. The petition referred to an inſtance of corruption; a perſon named Drake having been offered a ſituation abroad for certain offices relative to the election: it alſo charged mr. S. with a conſpiracy to keep witneſſes out of the way while the petition was pending.—It was ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Sheridan expreſſed himſelf in indignant terms at the nature of the petition, every word of which he declared to be a falſehood.

Lord Howick adviſed lord Folkeſtone to move for a committee of privileges on the ſubject; but lord F. ſaid, his object was to get witneſſes to the bar, and fixed his motion on that point for Monday.

Sir T. Turton moved for the production of papers relative to the aſſumption of the government of the Carnatic. He obſerved, that the late nabob died in 1800, ſince which his ſon and heir had been excluded from the throne, and a more remote heir placed on it. Mr. Sheridan brought forward a motion on this ſubject ſome time ſince, and he was at a loſs to conceive what could have induced him to decline proceeding. After ſeveral remarks on the importance of aſcertaining with whom this innovation reſted, he moved that the papers now before the houſe on this ſubject ſhould be printed.

Mr. Sheridan ſaid, he had already given his reaſons for not proceeding farther in the buſineſs; but that he ſhould give ſir Thomas his ſincere ſupport.

Sir J. Anſtruther oppoſed the motion; and deſired to know whether the mover wiſhed to impeach marquis Welleſley or lord Clive? There ought to be an end put to ſuch inquiries, as the diſcuſſions would ſhake the allegiance of thoſe who heard of them.

After ſeveral members had expreſſed their opinions on the ſubject, the queſtion was carried.

26. Lord Folkeſtone moved that the notice of a motion for conſidering the petition relative to the Weſtminſter election be changed into an order of the day, and that the petition be conſidered on Monday.—Ordered.

Mr. Sheridan ſaid, that on Monday he ſhould preſent a petition to prove ſubornation

tion of perjury on the part of the petitioners. Several petitions were ordered to lie on the table: among them was one for leave to build a bridge over the Thames, nearly oppoſite to Southampton-ſtreet.

Mr. Biddulph preſented a petition from the electors of Weſtminſter, praying, *demanding*, and *inſiſting*, that an earlier day than the 14th of April might be fixed on for proceeding in the affair of the election, in order that they might not be deprived of their elective franchiſe. Several members having objected to the indecorous language of the petition, it was withdrawn.

The houſe then went into a committee on the ſlave trade abolition bill, in which the uſual arguments were repeated; and the houſe afterwards adjourned.

MARCH 2. A report from the Malmſbury election committee repreſented, that the ſitting members were duly elected.

The Rocheſter committee reported, that J. Barnett, eſq. was duly elected.

Lord Howick brought down a meſſage from the king to the ſame effect as ſtated in the lords.

On a motion by lord Folkeſtone for reconſidering the Weſtminſter election petition,

Mr. Sheridan deprecated the idea of an intended motion for clearing the gallery, and begged that the ſubject might have all poſſible publicity.

Mr. P. Moore ſaid, that many electors, accuſed in mr. Paull's petition of having tampered with his witneſſes, wiſhed to prove the falſehood of the aſſertion. A diſcuſſion aroſe on the ſerioufneſs of the charge; and ſeveral petitions were preſented from various perſons, denying the ſtatements in mr. Paull's petition, and begging to refute them. A long converſation followed as to the correctneſs of the preſent manner of proceeding, and ſeveral members objected to hearing counſel; but at length a witneſs named *Drake* was examined for ſeveral hours: his evidence went to prove, that he was in ſome degree related to mr. Sheridan, who had promiſed to provide for him, but had not kept his word; that having been active in the election in behalf of mr. S. he deſired him to keep out of the way, in order that he might not attend the committee. Being aſked, who ſigned a certain letter? Mr. T. Grenville and lord Howick objected to the queſtion, as that might fix agency on mr. S. and loſe him his ſeat.—Some other witneſſes were examined, who prevaricated on certain points; on which the buſineſs was poſtponed till Thurſday, the houſe having ſat till ſix in the morning.

3. After ſeveral ballots for election committees,

Sir J. Pultney brought forward his project of finance. After a few explanatory obſervations, he read his laſt reſolution which gives the reſult of his plan. By the new plan of the chancellor of the exchequer, there would be, at the expiration of twenty years, a permanent debt of 318,311,495l. By the baronet's it would be 285,590,705l. leaving a difference in favour of the latter of 32,715,790l. By the baronet's plan, there would be a permanent ſinking fund of 14,359,900l. by that lord P. it would be only 12,779,000l. a difference in favour of the baronet's of 707,707l. The total of the permanent taxes, according to lord P.'s plan, would amount to 2,051,000l. whereas, by the plan he ſubmitted, it would amount to 1,985,293l. a balance in his favour to the amount of 65,709l. This reſolution was read *pro forma*.

Lord H. Petty ſaid, that there could be no objection to theſe reſolutions being examined with reſpect to their figures. He thought the reſolutions ought not to be printed until his bill, founded on his own reſolutions, ſhould be introduced.—The debate on the reſolutions was adjourned till this day week.

4. The houſe went into a committee on the mutiny bill; and lord Howick gave notice of a motion for a ſeparate bill, reſpecting the free exerciſe of the catholic religion in the army and navy.

Sir J. Hippiſley moved, that mr. ſecretary Windham, who is in cuſtody of the ſerjeant at arms, be diſcharged; as his abſence, on the call of the houſe, had ariſen from his being detained by very urgent private buſineſs.

Meſſrs. Canning and Whitbread, and lord H. Petty, oppoſed the motion, which was accordingly negatived; it being conceived that a ſufficient excuſe had not been offered for the ſecretary's abſence.

In a committee of ſupply for voting 80,000l. to the king of Pruſſia, lord H. Petty entered upon the defence of the grant, which was intended for a particular ſervice, viz. the ſtrengthening of the fortreſſes which ſtill remained to the king of Pruſſia.—Reſolution agreed to in the committee.

In a committee of

Ways and Means,

Lord H. Petty ſaid, it would be neceſſary to make a few obſervations, in conſequence of the loan that had been contracted for; and he had no opportunities of additional and more accurate information as to the produce of the ways and means. He ſhould, in the firſt place, recapitulate the ſupplies for the year, and then the ways and means.—The ſupplies were, For the navy (including

420,000l.

420,000l. for ordnance), 16,977,837l. for the army of Great Britain, 10,202,967l. for that of Ireland, 3,445,130l. making a total of 13,648,097l. for the expenſe under the head of barracks, of 975,687l. for Great Britain and Ireland, and 841,526l. for the department of the commiſſary general. Total expenditure of the army, 15,465,310l. —The exceſſes of the extraordinaries of the army laſt year was 793,710l. of all expenſes, theſe had been hitherto leaſt under the control of government; but as the exceſs of the extraordinaries laſt year was principally occaſioned by the expeditions fitted out, and as he could not ſtate that there might not be as many this year, he was not warranted to eſtimate the extraordinaries for 1807 lower than they had been for 1806. He ſhould, therefore, eſtimate the whole of the army extraordinaries for the year at 2,950,000l. for Great Britain, and 680,000l. for Ireland. This would make the whole of the expenſe of the army, ordinary and extraordinary, amount to 19,809,022l. The ordnance would be 3,264,469l. for Great Britain, and 479,246l. for Ireland. There was alſo to be a vote of credit for three millions, 200,000l. of which was to be on account of Ireland. In this vote were to be included all the ſubſidies which could be expected to become neceſſary in the preſent year. Of this ſum 500,000l. had been very lately (within this month) paid to Ruſſia. Eighty thouſand pounds had been advanced to Pruſſia; and the king of Sweden was to receive 240,000l. in the courſe of the year. Theſe were all the ſubſidies that he could ſtate to the houſe with any poſitive aſſurances as likely to be called for in the preſent year; but there was no reaſon for ſuppoſing that any caſe would occur in which larger ſubſidies would be required than what the vote of credit could ſupply. He then recapitulated the different items of expenditure, including the miſcellaneous ſervices, by which it appeared that the whole expenſes of the year would be 47,146,576l. but that deducting from this total the ſum of 5,545,677l. being the proportion of Ireland, the ſum total to be raiſed by this country was 41,600,898l.—He ſhould next ſtate the ways and means, which were:—Malt and hop duty, 2,750,000l.-Surplus of the conſolidated fund, 3,500,000l. war taxes, 19,800,000l. lotteries, 350,000l. vote of credit, three millions; loan, 12,200,000l. ſurplus of the ways and means of laſt year, 171,135l. which being added together, made a total of 41,771,185l. giving an exceſs of ways and means over the ſupply, of 170,268l. As to the loan which had been contracted for, it was taken on terms very advantageous to the public. For every 100l. the ſubſcriber got 70l. in the three per cent reduced, 70l. in the three per cent conſols, and 10l. 12s. in the five per cents. The intereſt for the preſent loan was 4l. 17s. 7d. each 100l. whereas the intereſt of the loan of laſt year, which was reckoned very advantageous to the public, was at 4l. 19s. 7d. for each hundred. When he ſtated the expenditure at thirty-two millions only, he deducted from the actual expenditure of the year all that was due on account of arrears, ſubſidies, or extraordinary payments; and then he would conſider that the permanent ways and means would be equal to what may be called the permanent expenditure. If he were to deduct from the total charge of 41,953,840l. the exceſs of the extraordinaries as before ſtated, 350,000l. for payment on account of the loyalty loan, 500,000l. ſubſidies to Ruſſia, and 320,000l. to Sweden and Pruſſia, beſides the vote of credit for two millions, which ſtill remained unappropriated: theſe ſums to be deducted amounting to 3,943,710l. would reduce the expenditure to 38,010,130l. from which was alſo to be deducted the arrears on account of outſtanding exchequer bills. After repeating ſome of the arguments which he had made uſe of in firſt ſubmitting his plan, he concluded by propoſing his firſt reſolution.

Mr. Roſe ſaid, he was more than ever convinced that lord P.'s plan of finance was a fallacy; for, after ſtating that 32,000,000l. was to be the utmoſt of the war expenditure, he now came with the information that a ſubſidy had been granted to Pruſſia of 80,000l. and in conſequence he had applied for the ſum of 3,000,000l.

Lord Petty replied, and after ſome farther converſation, the report was ordered to be received.

The ſugar bounty, the Iriſh exciſe tax and drawback, and the brandy additional duty bills, were ſeverally read a third time, and paſſed.

On the motion of lord Howick, the houſe went into a committee, to conſider of the propriety of granting bounties to captains, officers, and ſeamen of the navy, for the capture of veſſels carrying ſlaves. He propoſed 40l. as a bounty for each male, 30l. for each female, and 10l. for every child not exceeding the age of 14. The reſolutions were agreed to.

5. Lord Howick brought forward his motion relative to granting religious privileges to the catholics in the army and navy; he ſtated that his object was to do that generally for perſons of all religious perſuaſions, which was at preſent permitted in Ireland, and to extend to every one the privilege of defending his country; and he argued at much

much length to convince the houſe that there could be no danger in the meaſure.

Mr. Perceval made a ſtrong oppoſition to the meaſure; and conſidered all ſuch attempts as innovations, ariſing from the mild toleration afforded by the proteſtant religion. He was of opinion that, if all the civil offices in the kingdom were thrown open to the catholics they would not be ſatisfied.

Lord Temple defended the meaſure, and ſpoke with much aſperity againſt the ſpeech of mr. Perceval.

Leave was at length given to bring up the bill.

The examinations relative to the Weſtminſter election were then reſumed, and continued till four in the morning. Many altercations took place; and at length lord Howick ſaid, that it appeared to him, that the petition was falſe, ſcandalous, and malicious. He did not, however, wiſh at preſent to move any particular ſtep upon it; but after the evidence ſhould be printed, and the papers laid on the table, he ſhould move to take the petition into conſideration on the firſt convenient day. He afterwards in conſequence of a ſuggeſtion from the ſpeaker, moved, that the minutes of the evidence be printed, that the petition ſhould be taken into conſideration on Friday ſe'nnight, and that on that day, all the witneſſes who have been examined ſhould attend; which was ordered accordingly.

6. In anſwer to a queſtion from colonel Wilding, general Porter intimated his intention of bringing forward his motion, relative to the expulſion of colonel Cawthorne, ſoon after the Eaſter holidays.

The houſe went into a committee on the ſlave trade bill, in which ſir C. Pole repreſented the neceſſity of prolonging the period fixed for the abolition.

He was oppoſed by ſir T. Turton, and ſeveral other members; and lord H. Petty delivered his ſentiments at ſome length, in favour of the abolition.—The clauſe fixing the abolition for the 1ſt of May, was then agreed to.

After ſome converſation between lord Percy and mr. Perceval, his lordſhip ſignified his intention of propoſing a bill for the emancipation of children born of enſlaved parents after a certain date.

On the motion of lord Howick, mr. ſecretary Windham was diſcharged out of the cuſtody of the ſerjeant at arms, paying his fees.

9. Leave was given for a bill to regulate the trade of New South Wales.

On committing the mutiny bill, clauſes were added, rendering ſoldiers accuſed of felonious offences liable to be tried by common law; for putting a mark on every deſerter's body for his ſecond offence in that way; and alſo enacting that deſerters ſhall forfeit their pay and allowances. The next clauſe authoriſed courts martial, unleſs compoſed of thirteen members, ſhould not ſentence any ſoldier to loſs of life or limb, or tranſportation. Another related to the ſale of commiſſions, and impoſed penalties on all commiſſion brokers, or perſons ſelling commiſſions, ſhould they, in any way, or under any pretence, take, charge, or receive, any ſum beyond the regular price. Another enacted, that all perſons engaged in recruiting men for the army, and receiving daily pay, whether they were atteſted or not, ſhould be liable to all the penalties of the act. Theſe amendments were agreed to.

On reporting the ſlave trade bill, a clauſe was added for enliſting negroes in the black corps for life, in the Weſt Indies, in order to prevent them becoming burthenſome to the iſlands; and a clauſe empowering his majeſty to make proviſion for negro apprentices, after the expiration of their indentures; made to prevent ſuch apprentices from becoming chargeable to the iſlands.

10. Mr. Whitbread preſented a petition from the hon. A. C. Johnſtone, late governor of Dominica, complaining of certain grievances under which he laboured, owing to the conduct of ſeveral individuals high in office. The petition was read, and, after a ſhort ſpeech from the ſecretary at war, ſtating that ſuch grievances could not poſſibly occur again, was ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Hibbert made his motion reſpecting the petition of the Weſt India merchants. He ſtated, at great length the ſituation in which the Weſt India iſlands had been for many years paſt; the great importance they were of to this country, as contributing ſo largely to its revenue; and alſo to the encouragement of its ſhipping and manufactures; the conſumption of the latter carried out there amounting to five or ſix millions a year; he added, that the planters were labouring under the greateſt difficulties in conſequence of high duties, and other diſadvantages they had to ſtruggle with; and ſaid that where the grower of an article was oppreſſed, it was better the ſtate ſhould bear a part of the burden, than that his induſtry ſhould be cruſhed. He concluded a ſpeech, which evinced a moſt extenſive knowledge of the ſubject, by moving 'That the petition be referred to a ſelect committee, to examine and report the ſame, with their obſervations

ons and opinions, to the houſe.' The motion was agreed to.

A debate enſued on the mutiny bill relative to the inefficiency of the preſent method of recruiting.—An amendment authoriſing a juſtice to adminiſter the oath to thoſe who enliſted for unlimited ſervice, was propoſed by lord Caſtlereagh, and negatived by a majority of 128.

13. The marine mutiny bill was read a third time and paſſed.

A report from the Taunton committee ſtated, that the ſitting members were duly elected.—Leave was given for a bill to continue the acts reſpecting the malt duty to the end of next ſeſſion; and the houſe adjourned till Monday.

16. A report from the Guildford election committee ſtated, that mr. H. Summer was not duly elected, but that general Norton ought to have been returned.

A new writ was ordered for the borough of Buckingham, in the room of Sir W. Young, appointed governor of Tobago.

On the motion for the third reading of the ſlave trade abolition bill, mr. Hibbert entered at great length into a vindication of the trade, and cited as authorities in its favour, meſſrs. Park, Bruce, and Edwards. He called upon the young men who had taken ſo zealous a part in the bill now before the houſe, to take care how they miſtook warm and raſh aſſertions for ſolid facts; it had been aſſerted, that this trade had been the cauſe of the ſufferings of the natives in Africa; but it had been aſſerted only; it never had been proved.

Sir P. Francis, meſſrs. Lyttleton, H. Thornton, Barham, and Wilberforce, ſpoke in favour of the abolition; and

Meſſrs. T. Plomer, captain Herbert, Windham, and lord Caſtlereagh, uſed many forcible arguments againſt the bill.

Mr. Sheridan expreſſed his opinion that the trade ought to be gradually, and not ſuddenly aboliſhed. The bill was at length paſſed without a diviſion.

17. A petition from the univerſity of Oxford, praying that the catholics' naval and military ſervice bill might not paſs into a law, was laid upon the table.

Mr. Tierney gave notice of a motion for this day week, in relation to the debt of India.

Lord Percy, after a ſhort ſpeech, moved for leave to bring in a bill for gradually aboliſhing ſlavery in his majeſty's ſettlements in the Weſt Indies.

Lord H. Petty ſtated, that although it was impoſſible for him not to reſpect the motives which had induced his noble friend to ſubmit the motion, he felt it his duty to deprecate the diſcuſſion of ſuch a ſubject at the preſent moment; and the more eſpecially, as he conſidered the abolition of the ſlave trade, and the emancipation of the negroes, to be queſtions wholly extinct from each other. His lordſhip moved the previous queſtion.

Several members complimented lord Percy for his intentions; but the motion for the previous queſtion was about to be carried, when the ſpeaker broke up the houſe, there being only 35 members preſent.

18. The Colcheſter committee reported, that mr. Thornton and mr. Tuſſnel were duly elected.

Catholic Officer's Bill.

Lord Howick ſaid, that ſince he had propoſed the ſecond reading of this bill, circumſtances had occurred which would render it neceſſary to defer that meaſure ſtill longer. He was not at preſent authoriſed to enter into particulars; but at a proper time he hoped to give every communication.

On the motion of lord Petty, for the farther conſideration of the Weſtminſter petition. Mr. Sheridan obſerved, that he had a right to ſum up the evidence. He alluded to the conduct of Weatherhead, one of the witneſſes againſt him; proved that he had deſerted no leſs than four times; made many comments on the charges that were alledged againſt him; and concluded with hoping that the houſe would vindicate its own character, and protect his.

Mr. M. A. Taylor declared, that he conſidered the petition as a moſt flagrant conſpiracy, to impoſe upon the houſe; and moved 'that the allegations contained in it are falſe and ſcandalous.'

Lord Folkeſtone made a brief defence of his own conduct, and of ſome of the parties concerned in the petition; and was ably replied to by mr. Whitbread; after which, mr. Taylor's motion was put and carried, with the ſingle negative of lord Folkeſtone. Drake, the evidence, was then ordered to be committed to Newgate for groſs falſehood and prevarication.

On the motion for the third reading of the freehold aſſets bill, mr. Tuſſnell oppoſed the meaſure; and mr. Simeon defended it.

The maſter of the rolls contended, in a long ſpeech, that it would be a dangerous innovation on the exiſting laws of the country, which would ſhake the foundation and ſecurity of marriage ſettlements.

The lord advocate of Scotland highly approved of the bill; and after ſeveral explanations had taken place, the houſe divided on the queſtion of the third reading; when there were, againſt it 69—for it 47—majority 22.—The bill was conſequently loſt.

19. The ſecretary at war moved for two bills

bills for the following purpoſes. The firſt, for the more convenient payment of half-pay, penſions, and other allowances to widows, widows of officers, and perſons on the compaſſionate liſt, by paying the ſame at their reſpective reſidences. The ſecond to empower the commiſſioners of the Kilmainham hoſpital to make regulations for the payment of ſoldiers who have penſions or allowances from that hoſpital. Leave was granted.

Lord H. Petty moved for a bill for the better regulation of the payment of the taxes and revenues in Scotland, and the tranſmitting the accounts regularly to London.—The principle of the bill had been unanimouſly agreed to in the courſe of the laſt ſeſſion. From the local circumſtances of Scotland, the collection and tranſmiſſion of the revenues was done by the intervention of the banks. The objects of the bill were, firſt, to require that all collectors of taxes in Scotland ſhould make up their accounts on the laſt day of every month, and tranſmit the ſame, without delay, to the collectors general of the cuſtoms, or the receiver general of the land tax; and that they ſhould alſo regularly tranſmit the money collected in the courſe of the month to the two corporate banks, the bank of Scotland, and the royal bank of Scotland, in equal ſhares. The bill would alſo require, that notice ſhould be given to the caſhiers of each of thoſe banks, of any conſiderable ſum of money that was to be drawn from them, on account of the public ſervice. After a few words from mr. Roſe, leave was given.

Lord H. Petty alſo gave notice, that he ſhould move for a bill, to amend a miſtake which took place in the bill of laſt year, for granting increaſed allowances to the younger branches of the royal family.—The miſtake in the bill was, the expreſſing that thoſe increaſed allowances were to be continued during his majeſty's pleaſure: whereas the intention of the houſe undoubtedly was, that the increaſe, like the reſt of the allowances, ſhould be for their lives.

Mr. Vanſittart obtained leave to bring in a bill, for the purpoſe of extending the principles of the cuſtom-houſe bill to the outports.

Leave was alſo given for a bill to enable the prince of Caſtelcicala to receive his Sicilian majeſty's proportion of prize-money for the veſſels taken at Genoa by the ſquadron under lord Keith.

20. In a committee of ſupply, various ſums were granted to his majeſty for miſcellaneous ſervices.—Adjourned till Monday.

23. Lord Euſton preſented a petition from the univerſity of Cambridge, againſt the catholic naval and military ſervice bill.

Mr. Dickenſon requeſted information from lord Howick, whether there was any foundation for the rumour of a change of miniſters, in conſequence of their preſſing too ſtrongly the catholic ſervice bill.

Lord Howick anſwered, that his majeſty had been pleaſed to call into conſultation perſons who did not at preſent form a part of his majeſty's government, and that he therefore was juſtified in concluding that it was the royal pleaſure to form a new adminiſtration. His lordſhip deferred giving at that time a ſpecific reply to the inquiry made of him, from the peculiar delicacy of his ſituation; though he expreſſed his anxiety for the arrival of the moment, when he could enter into a full explanation of thoſe circumſtances which have given riſe to the change in the public affairs of the country that was about to take place. His lordſhip added, that the circumſtances which induced him to poſtpone the ſecond reading of the bill, ſtill prevailed.

Mr. Sheridan preſented a petition ſigned by many reſpectable inhabitants of Weſtminſter, praying leave to bring in a bill for building a bridge over the river Thames, between Blackfriars and Weſtminſter bridges, nearly oppoſite to Southampton-ſtreet, in the Strand, and opening a high road to the Obelisk in St. George's Fields; for which purpoſe he ſaid, preparations were in conſiderable forwardneſs.—The petition was received, read and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Tierney withdrew his motion relative to the debt of the India company, on account of the retiring of the adminiſtration.

Mr. Huſkiſſon deferred his finance reſolutions for the ſame reaſon.

Sir T. Turton's motion for papers relative to the diſpoſition of the nabob of the Carnatic was agreed to.

24. Mr. Roſe preſented a petition from the truſtees of the Britiſh muſeum, praying aid.

Mr. Bankes, after deprecating the granting of places of truſt and reſponſibility in reverſion, moved a reſolution of the committee appointed to inveſtigate abuſes in offices, that no place, ſalary, or employment in any part of his majeſty's dominions, ought in future to be granted in reverſion.

Mr. Yorke contended, that the power of the crown to reward individuals by offices in reverſion, had been reſorted to only in caſes where meritorious individuals had rendered

essential services to the state; and if it was a custom, it was a saving to the country, as the individual who might receive an office in reversion was only remunerated in his own person, with a descent to his heirs; so that the sum never could accumulate upon the public, but must die away by degrees.

Lord Howick supported the resolution; and declared, that the present administration had granted no office whatever in reversion, except two trifling offices in the court of chancery, granted by the noble lord who presided there, to the poor relations of a very meritorious character. He was even of opinion, that the resolution ought to have gone farther; and expressed a hope that no place or salary should be granted for life.

Mr. Johnstone supported the resolution; and observed, that if it had passed years ago, the sum of 60,000l. per annum, now enjoyed by one noble family, would be devoted to the purposes of the state.

General Gascoigne expressed his suspicion that the object of the resolution was intended to fetter the administration now forming.

Mr. Sheridan defended ministers from such charges; and a bill was ordered to be brought in pursuant to the resolution.

(To be continued.)

ORIGINAL & SELECT POETRY.

May Day.

ALL hail! auspicious first of May,
Thou'rt kindly welcome here,
With all the vegetating sway,
The labouring hind to cheer,
The silver lily and the rose,
Impatient wait thy birth:
Myriads of beauties now disclose,
That winter lock'd in earth.

The glitt'ring dews upon the thorn,
Like gems transparent are,
Whilst cowslips sweet emboss the lawn,
And scent the ambient air:
Around each field and meadow gay,
The flowr'y mantle spread,
With vernal bloom adorn the spray,
While daisies rear their head.

The lofty hills in green attire,
Delight the wand'ring sight;
Sure this the season of desire,
That speeds the minute's flight;
High pois'd in air the tuneful lark,
Proclaims the birth of day;
While through the wide ethereal arch
He rings his warbling sway.

In splendid pride, the gardens blaze,
Diffusing odours sweet;
Beneath the sun's enlivening rays,
Of propagating heat:
The rosy milk maid joyful hails
May's swift return again;
Neglected throws aside her pails
To dance upon the plain.

Industrious shepherds leave their beds,
To tend their fleecy care;
While cits in Dublin lull their heads,
And cards distract the fair;
Each rural nymph and honest swain,
Now true their promise prove,
Blythe they assemble on the plain,
And hail the dame of love.

A gaudy wreath their heads entwine,
Made of the choicest flow'rs,
Meet to approach Love's holy shrine,
And wing the passing hours;
May Hymen bless, make happy such,
And still their bliss prolong,
'Man wants but little,' he wants not much,
'Nor wants that little long.'

Clonmel, May 10th, 1807. H. F.

The 25th *Ode of the* 1st *Book of Horace.*
(Never before in Print.)

THE wanton blades, more rarely than before,
With thund'ring raps disturb thy silent sleep;
They shake with iron-bars your gate no more,
Nor thro' thy windows do they slily peep:—
The door, which once the easy hinge could move,
Its treshold now with kind embrace doth love.

No more your paramours, in doleful tone,
Sing, 'Lydia, ah! can thou be so severe,
To sleep whole nights at ease, while I alone,
By Cupid's painful darts am dying here:'—
But, you in turn, shall weep—ah! weep in vain,
When left neglected in some lonely lane.

When winds tempestuous plough the swelling main,
And lust—such lust as broils each raging mare,
Shall fry thy ulcer'd liver with much pain;
The youth who green and blooming ivy wear,
And with a myrtle wreath their temples bind,
Will throw thy wither'd garlands with the wind.

Clonmel, May, 14th, 1897.

Paradoxum.

DO victum Capreis, attondeo gramina, Cœlum
Exorno, semper spicula bina gero.
Si modò T tollas, juncto C, frigora mecum
Porto, gelu pravè florea rura premo.

Tollito nunc C, connectas M atque prioris
Sedi, et sum valido corpore nempè niger.
L jungas, sum Virgo, tortaque fulmina temno,
Victores decorant tempora crine meâ.

D. HICCAEUS.

Clonmel, May 14th, 1807.

Anacreontic.

COME, resistless God of Love!
Leave thy blissful seat above;
Leave the arms of Paphos' queen,
Leave the groves of Ida green;
Leave thy nymph, thy Psyche fair;
Hither, Cupid, quick repair:
Haste thee from the verdant bow'r,
Come, retrieve thy wonted pow'r!
Lo! a mortal craves thy aid,
For the vows he oft has paid:
For the immolated dove
Offer'd on thine altars, Love,
Give, O! give me to subdue
The heart of her I fervent woo!

For Walker's Universal Magazine.

The Limerick Nosegay.

'The gardener, industrious, trims out his border,
'Puts each odoriferous plant in its order;
'The myrtle he ranges, the rose, and the lily,
'With lupin, and crocus, and daffadowndilly.'

AS Cupid thro' Limerick pass'd upon duty,
He sent up those names to the goddess of Beauty,
As flowers, whose attractions his notice had claim'd,
Which the god in the form of a nosegay had fram'd.
And to Hymen, his brother, he offer'd the gift,
With an earnest desire that he'd lend him a lift.
That he'd free from those cares, and that each might be blest,
In the bosom of him, who would cherish it best.
For tho' in the garden, they held up their heads,
And all seem'd content to enjoy their own beds;
Yet all things consider'd, he thought it more wise,
To crop them, and offer to Hymen a prize.
The Nosegay's subjoin'd, 'tis aptly applyed,
'Tis Cupid's collection, and Limerick's pride.—

Miss Dickson, the jessamine's fragrance may boast,
Whom the graces all vie who shall beautify most.
Miss Hall is a sweet-pea, which can pleasingly bind
In bonds of affection the hearts of mankind.
Miss Kiggell resembles the sweet gilly-flower,
Perfection resides there—and rules in full power.
Miss W——— is touch-*me*-not, for if you do,
Her wit is wound up for one *stroke* to give two.
Miss Sargent's a lupin, so modest and sweet,
So engaging her manners, her person so neat.
Miss Shepherd's a cowslip, devoid of all art,
Attracting the eye, while it steals to the heart.
Miss Rochford's the sweet mignionet,
Where the graces and loves in good humour are met.
Miss O'Brien we will to a lily compare,
No garden 'ere 'forded a lily more fair.
Miss Holmes is a rose, of all hearts the desire;
May her charms long remain, such delights to inspire.
Miss Mounsell with flames, and with arrows beset,
Is the victim of Cupid—she's love in a net.
A Narcissus miss ——— hardly that elf,
Who loves to distraction her own pretty self.
Miss Lee is a primrose, both pretty and spruce,
But far beyond those which the meadows produce.
In miss *H*——'s form, we a woodbine may trace,
Which clings to each object, and loves to embrace.
Miss Briscoe's mild charms, those of Venus surpass,
She's the mirror of beauty—she's Venus's glass.—
And *Miss Beevan*, so lovely, will certainly prove,
A myrtle of Venus—a sprig of true love.

Miss

Miſs Vincent the charms of Sweet-William diſplays,
Her figure attractive, and worthy of praiſe.
Miſs Hemſworth a carnation, health glows in her face,
And to all her acompliſhments adds a new grace.

Theſe flowers with others, as charming and fair,
Stock tulips and violets diſpers'd here and there,
All Limerick growth, Cupid pluck'd from the bed,
Where with care they'd been rais'd, and together been bred.
Reſolving to Hymen this tribute to pay,
Nor ſuffer ſuch charms to be loſt in decay;
Then bleſt be each bloſſom, and long may its ſwain
Live content with his choice, nor have cauſe to complain.

For Walker's Univerſal Magazine.

Inſcription for the Tomb of the late Miſs Neriſſa Corbet, of Patrick-ſtreet, Limerick, who died of a Decline, in the 18th Year of her Age.

Deo optimo, maximo.

Heu! Heu!

Qualem Virginem perdidimus!
Qualem Angelicam!
Vivit adhuc inter bonos!
Vivit in famâ nunquam moritura!

Smit by ſlow fate, beneath this hallow'd earth
An Angel's form—an Angel's beauty ſleep!
Neriſſa! thy modeſt and engaging worth
The mourning *muſes* hail! the virtues weep!
Yet ſhall this face again its charms diſplay,
Reflecting light divine, from Heaven's eternal day!
Limerick, April 29.

For Walker's Old-Eſtabliſhed Magazine.

Lines on Miſs Dulhunty, Daughter of Thomas Dulhunty, of Ennis, Co. Clare, Eſq.

'Formed by the graces—lovelineſs itſelf!!'

WITH beaut'ous Dulhunty's charms amaz'd,
Upon the lovely nymph I gazed!
Recounted all the wond'rous grace,
The heav'nly air, that fills her face!
The killing glances of her eyes;
Her ſhape and well-proportion'd ſize.—
And all thoſe beauties that diſplay,
Something brighter far—than day!
I ſtood ſurpriz'd, and could not move;
But never dreamt of powerful love.
I gaz'd alas! to be undone;
Mary's charms my heart have won.
Too ſoon I felt the fatal dart,
The ſoft deſires, and thrilling ſmart;—
That anguiſh, pain and want of reſt,
And all the ſmyptoms of a wounded breaſt.
May, 6, 1807.

Extracts from the Spirit of the Public Journals for 1806, *lately publiſhed.*

'*A Margate Advertiſement. Of an Aſs-hirer, whoſe Donkies are alternately employed by Ladies and Smgglers. By J. Bannantine.*

ASSES here to be let! for all purpoſes right,
To bear *angels* by day and *ſpirits* by night.

'*Cooke's Unparalleled Excellence!*

IN characters new, and in characters old,
Cooke muſt be allowed a matchleſs fine fellow;
For act what he will, we are conſtantly told,
That in every part he is perfectly *mellow!*'

'*The Advantages of Solitude for Study.*

MY garden neat
Has got a ſeat
That's hid from ev'ry eye, ſir:
There day and night
I read and write
And *nobody's* the wiſer. W. H.

'*A ſhort Story.*

I HEARD a judge his tipſtaff call,
And ſay, 'Sir, I deſire,
You go forthwith, and ſearch the hall,
And ſend me in my *crier.*'

'And ſearch, my Lord, in vain I may,'
The tipſtaff gravely ſaid:
'The crier cannot *cry* to-day,
Becauſe his wife is dead.' W. H.

'*The Warrior—By Old-Nick.*

Crede mihi, militat omnis amans.—*Ovid. Amor. Lib.* 1.

LET others of ſing of ſanguine Mars,
Of deeds in arms, of glory's ſcars,
In theſe I would not ſhine:
Yet I'm a warrior, beauteous maid,
And thou ſhalt find me not afraid
Of any fight of thine.

A noble thing it is, I've read,
To ſleep with fame, in honour's bed;
And faith I think it fine:

Yet how, ſweet Emma, 'tis, or why,
I cannot gueſs, but, may I die,
I'd rather ſleep in thine.

Again, they tell of all the charms
Of glorious death in victory's arms,
But never be it mine;
For, as I live, my lovely fair,
Though vanquiſh'd, ſtill I do declare,
I'd rather die in thine.'

'The Widow.

A WOMAN ſinging ballads for money to bury her huſband, gave riſe to the following *jeu d'eſprit*:—

For her huſband deceas'd, Sally chaunts the ſweet lay,
And faith it is *ſingular* ſorrow;
But I doubt, ſince ſhe *ſings* for a *dead-man* to-day,
She'll *cry* for a *live one* to-morrow.'

State of Public Affairs.

IF domeſtic affairs have been full of intereſt, by the agitation of the queſtion reſpecting the catholics, the diſapprobation expreſſed by his majeſty, the conſequent change of miniſtry, readmiſſion of lord Melville to a ſeat in his majeſty's councils, and the ſudden diſſolution of parliament, thoſe on the continent have called no leſs on our attention. The dreadful battles fought at Eylau did not end, as was expected, in the defeat of Bonaparte. He retained his ground in Poland, and expectation is on the tiptoe for the event of another great battle, which is to decide the fate of the kingdoms of Pruſſia and Poland. The power of Ruſſia to recruit her armies has been, we fear, much exaggerated, and the attacks by Turkey and Perſia muſt diſtract her attention. The Pruſſian army is ſaid to have increaſed much in number, but we doubt the truth of this averment, and the difficulty of paying the troops of the combined armies preſent many obſtacles to the great exploits expected from them. On the other hand the French, flushed with victory, and living at the expenſe of the conquered, no ways dread any new attack, and Bonaparte is making the moſt active preparations for a very vigorous campaign.

The French are in great part to the eaſt of the Viſtula; but neither Konigſberg nor Dantzic are taken. Againſt Stralſund they have been unſucceſsful, and Swediſh Pomerania has been evacuated. Whether the latter ſtep is a feint, or a meaſure of neceſſity, time will diſcover. Auſtria is quiet, and is even ſaid to have allowed the paſſage of French troops through her territories. Every thing in Europe ſeems to depend on the campaign by the Viſtula; and if Great Britain ſends, as is expected, twenty-five thouſand men into the Baltic, and the Swedes come forward with energy, the ſhock of arms will be terrible. When will mankind learn their true glory, and cultivate with as much ardor, the arts of preſerving, as thoſe of deſtroying, their fellow-creatures?

Bonaparte is not occupied merely in the arts of a ſoldier. From his camp at Oſterode, he iſſued orders on the 20th of March, for the meeting of the ſenate. One great object of this meeting is to raiſe and organize the conſcripts of 1808, and this meaſure will add diſcipline to his new recruits. At the meeting of the ſenate, the reaſons for this meaſure were explained, and the whole blame was laid to the immeaſurable ambition of the enemies of France. It is needleſs to ſay, that the ſenate agreed to the meaſure; and to the flattering account of victories, a proof of the paternal love of the ſovereign is added, in his condeſcending to let his new conſcripts be diſciplined ſix months in their own country, before they are called into actual ſervice. A country, in which ſuch large levies are made, muſt poſſeſs a degree of enthuſiaſm, which the regular governments do not ſupply; but in the defence of our own country we may imitate the activity of the enemy; and if a certain portion of our young men were regimented every year in the ſame manner, we might, notwithſtanding the formidable power of France, ſmile at all her threats of invaſion.

But the moſt extraordinary and important event that has taken place ſince our laſt, is in a quarter and in a manner little expected. The French revolution has produced ſtrange effects. We have ſeen France revolting from the pope, and Great Britain protecting his holineſs; France returning to a ſort of allegiance to the pope, in which, however, the poor old gentleman has very little to congratulate himſelf; and Great Britain finds a returning cry of No Popery, reſounded in its councils; infidelity was to be attacked, and we united with the creſcent; the badges of Mahomet were worn by our heroes; on a ſudden the heroes of the creſcent are pointing their guns at the minarets of Conſtantinople.

What a mad world, my maſters, is this we live in! Quam parvâ ſapientiâ gubernatur mundus, ſaid formerly a Swediſh prime miniſter, that is, Folly rules the roaſt. We, however ſay, quam magnâ ſapientiâ gubernatur mundus. How wiſely it is managed, that notwithſtanding the mad caprices of mortals, total deſtruction and inevitable miſery do not enſue. Let any one look to the conduct of the cabinets

of Europe ſince the year 1789, and he muſt be firmly perſuaded that, if the world had not been governed by a higher power than the mere oſtenſible agents, ſuch as kings, privy counſellors, generals, and the like, every thing muſt have run to confuſion. Happily the folly of one day is corrected by the folly of the next. The materials, which the art or folly of man endeavour to combine together, are found incapable of coaleſcing, and, in ſpite of themſelves, they all concur in bringing about events, to which ſingly no one would contribute a particle of ſtrength. Thus, if a variety of forces is employed in different directions, to move a given weight, the weight moves in the direction of none of them, but takes a courſe which none of the agents could ſeparately effectuate, or has wiſdom to calculate.

A few months ago, the Turkiſh and Britiſh forces were united together within the ſtrongeſt bands of friendſhip. We had reſcued Egypt from the graſp of the French, and reſtored the country to its ancient maſters. The gratitude of the Turks was without bounds, religious prejudices gave way, and the Engliſh were treated as a very ſuperior order of chriſtian dogs. We now hear that a Britiſh ſquadron has paſſed the Dardanelles, has attacked and deſtroyed ſome Turkiſh veſſels, and has threatened Conſtantinople with deſtruction. Thus policy changes alliances. The Britiſh ambaſſador, aware of this reſult of the manœuvres that were likely to take place, contrived to ſecret himſelf aboard one of our frigates, and to convey the greater part of our merchants on board our ſhips. Negotiations were carried on between him, the admiral, and the ſublime porte. Very exorbitant terms were demanded on our part. They were refuſed by the porte; and it is not abſolutely certain whether our ſquadron is gone back to its ancient ſtation, or is ſailed forward to the Black Sea.

The admiral had ſent an account of this tranſaction to Europe; but the veſſel, in which the diſpatches were, has been taken by the French. We are left, in great meaſure, to our own conjectures, and to the garbled accounts of the French, who accuſe us, in their uſual manner, of being barbarous in our warfare, and parallel our deſtruction of the Turkiſh veſſels with our attack on the Spaniſh frigates. Both have been done without a declaration of war, and on powers, at the time, in a ſtate of peace with us. Great Britain, in the mean time, will not want for advocates; and we leave to the juriſconſults and the moraliſts to diſcuſs theſe points. Suffice it for us, that we have exaſperated the Turks beyond meaſure; that we have put all our countrymen in that part of the world in great danger; that we have ruined our commerce in the Levant; and have given to the French the preponderance in the Turkiſh councils.

The French, it ſeems, had warned the Turks of the probability of ſuch an attack, and had offered their troops and engineers for the defence of the capital. This offer was refuſed, but preſent danger has overcome the councils of prudence. A large body of troops and engineers is on their march to Conſtantinople; and thoſe forts, whoſe poſſeſſion was demanded, will be garriſoned by the French, and effectually put into their power. Theſe events portend the ſpeedy fall of the Turkiſh empire, at leaſt of that part of it which is ſituated in Europe, and humanity may congratulate itſelf on the proſpect, that a large territory may again be reſtored to the bleſſings of civilization. This downfal of the power of Mahomet, added to the humiliations experienced by the pope, cannot fail of making a deep impreſſion on the reflecting mind. Whatever is eſtabliſhed on force and fraud muſt, in a courſe of time, give way; but we cannot expect the appearance of that kingdom of peace and juſtice, which the prophet Daniel has ſo clearly pointed out to us, till many great concuſſions and bloody and barbarous battles have led to the removal of thoſe obſtacles which hither to have reſiſted the efforts of reaſon and religion.

Whilſt Europe is thus ſhaken, Aſia ſeems to hold out a proſpect of great changes. Perſia, which for a long time has ſcarcely been heard of, and had been torn to pieces by inteſtine commotions, is now reviving. On the north it borders on the Ruſſian power, and on the ſouth extends itſelf very nearly to our poſſeſſions in India. The French are not likely to let ſlip the opportunity of annoying us. Already, by their councils, an attack has been made upon Ruſſia, but with what ſucceſs, the diſtance of the ſcene of action, and the difficulty of gaining accurate intelligence from theſe quarters, prevents us from diſcovering. The ſovereign is repreſented to poſſeſs unuſual activity and energy; and if we go on in our attacks upon the religious prejudices of the natives of India, our poſſeſſions in that quarter may fall an eaſy prey to a new invader.

Our hopes in South America have revived. The expedition of ſir H. Popham led to a fatal cataſtrophe, the loſs of an army. Freſh troops have been ſent there and they have performed their taſk with the utmoſt bravery. Monte Video is ſituated on the northern banks of the river la Plata, and, in fact, commands its entrance. This place has been taken by aſſault, and with a dread-

ful

ful ſlaughter on both ſides: but it redounds to the credit of the Britiſh troops, that though it was taken only between ſix and ſeven in the morning, at eight o'clock the utmoſt tranquillity reigned in the town, and the women quietly walked the ſtreets about their buſineſs. It is remarkable too, that the news of this ſucceſs ſhould arrive in England at the time when endeavours were made to throw the whole country into confuſion upon the catholic bill, and the thanks of the legiſlature were given to the troops on this expedition, the majority of whom were catholics. We ſhall hope ſpeedily to announce, that that part of South America acknowledges the power of Great Britain, and that its conqueſt will be attended with beneficial effects to both the conquerors and the conquered.

Difficulties have ariſen reſpecting the treaty with America, and, it is ſaid will, prevent its accompliſhment. The ſubject of impreſſing ſeamen is one great point of embarraſſment. To remove it requires great ſkill and prudence. The expedition and treaſon of colonel Burr ſeem to be without foundation, and the internal peace of the united ſtates is not likely to be diſturbed. What will be the impreſſion made by the iſſue of the trial of captain Whitby, time muſt diſcover; but it would ſcarcely be adviſeable for him to expoſe his life to a jury of Americans. It will be recollected, that this captain, being on the American ſtation, fired into an American veſſel, and killed a man. This put the united ſtates into great commotion. The man was buried with great funeral pomp, and the apprehenſion of captain Whitby, as the murderer, was ordered. The captain is now in England, and has been tried by a court-martial, at Portſmouth, for firing into the veſſel, againſt the law of neutral nations. From this charge he has been acquitted.

The abolition of the ſlave trade has revived the proſpects for the civilization, as it is called, of Africa. A large body has been aſſembled at the freemaſon's tavern, to conſider of meaſures to effectuate this benevolent purpoſe. His highneſs the duke of Glouceſter took the chair, and a committee was formed to mature a plan to be brought forward at a meeting to be held next month. However laudable the object may be, we cannot but entertain great fears for its execution.

Election for the City of Dublin, May 15.

THIS day the election for two members to ſerve in parliament for this city came on at the ſeſſions-houſe in Green-ſtreet, when the right hon. Henry Grattan was propoſed by mr. Bride, and ſeconded by mr. Hartley; and Robert Shaw, eſq. was propoſed by alderman Hone, and ſeconded by alderman Crothers.

The uſual proclamation being made, and no other candidate appearing, theſe two gentlemen were declared by the returning officer, as duly elected.—On the return being declared, mr. Shaw, with that urbanity and kindneſs, which has ever marked his character, turned to mr. Grattan that eminent friend to his country, and (ſhaking him by the hand with the warmeſt cordiality) congratulated him on the event of the election.—The ſurrounding multitude, and we ſeldom witneſſed one more numerous, caught the feeling, and with an honeſt and generous impulſe, applauded, by reiterated ſhouts and huſſas, the union of all that is dignified in talent and in patriotiſm, with what is pure and honourable in public, and moral and virtuous in private life

Mr. Grattan then addreſſed the electors in a few words to the following effect:—

This is the third time I had the honour of being returned to parliament to repreſent the city of Dublin: Firſt in 1791, the ſecond time in 1806, and now in 1807. Upon the firſt occaſion in 1791, I was elected by an immenſe majority; the ſecond time by a very reſpectable portion of the election, and now without oppoſition. On theſe different elections the conſtituency have acted by me ſo nobly, that if I was at any expence, it was not occaſioned by their want of liberality.

At the late election I was returned with ſuch a zeal, with ſuch a power of popular activity exerted in my favour, that could not be reſiſted, and cannot now be withſtood. I feel the diſtinction with a pride, which cannot be repaid except by a full and faithful diſcharge of the great truſt you have committed to me. Allow me to preſs upon you the neceſſity of harmony, and unanimity amongſt yourſelves. It is the duty which you all owe, to love one another, and whatever differences may exiſt, recollect that you are one country and you are *one people*.

While the electors of the ſiſter kingdom are diſtracted by the moſt acrimonious ſpirit, our country has given them an example, and this city has taken the lead. You have ſhewn how members of parliament ſhould be returned, and I congratulate you upon the true conſtitutional ſpirit with which you have exerciſed the elective franchiſe; you have returned repreſentatives to parliament with reflection, with peace and with good order befitting freemen, while other places are ſcenes of riot and diſorder. You have by the mildneſs of your

manner, given me a noble support worthy a free people. Accept my thanks, I will serve you with an unalterable attachment.

Mr. Shaw then addreſſed his conſtituents as follows:

'The honour you have conferred upon me by returning me a third time to parliament for this my native city, I never can forget. After the late conteſt, the oppoſition which was commenced againſt me, gave me very little apprehenſion.—I am happy to congratulate you upon the harmony which prevails this day. But had we been engaged in another conteſt, my experience of the unſhaken and indefatigable zeal of my friends, and ſupported by you, I could have nothing to fear. I truſt my future conduct will prove that I am not ungrateful, and I promiſe you that I will moſt particularly devote myſelf to your ſervice.'

Mr. Grattan's proceſſion proceeded.—A number of his friends, mounted, took the lead, and were followed by ſeveral gentlemen, two and two, bearing ſtreamers and white wands. The chair, beautifully decorated, was drawn by a crowd of his friends and conſtituents. Mr. Grattan was univerſally ſaluted by the ſurrounding multitude, and the crowds which were collected both *in* and *on* the houſes before which the cavalcade paſſed. Mr. Shaw, in a ſhort time followed. The proceſſion was conducted much on the ſame plan. His banners, which were elegant and numerous, diſplayed the mottoes '*King and Conſtitution*,' and '*Shaw and Independence*.' He was attended by a crowd of citizens of the firſt deſcription, who offered the moſt flattering gratulation in his progreſs, and he returned with a becoming gratitude, the warm partiality which his friends and the public evinced.

The *Courier* of the 1ſt inſtant contains the following paragraph, as if it were intended to ſhew with what ſpirit that print could renounce all pretentions to veracity.

'Lord Fingal, and the chief catholic biſhops, and other leading catholics, have waited upon the duke of Richmond, the new lord lieutenant of Ireland, and expreſſed *their ſatisfaction at the late change of miniſters*.'

This day, (4) lord Manners ſat in the high court of chancery, and heard motions.

An experiment was lately made on the grand canal, for the purpoſe of impelling a large boat through the water without the aſſiſtance of horſes.

Brigadier general Browne, who commanded the aſſault of Monte Video, and ſo much diſtinguiſhed himſelf, is a native of Dublin, and is the brother of captain Robert Browne, deputy teller of the exchequer; and of captain T. Browne, of the royal navy.

Lieutenant Everard, whoſe gallantry and good conduct upon this occaſion, has been noticed by his royal highneſs the duke of York, and who led the forlorn hope, is immediately to be appointed to a company, the juſt meed of his gallantry; he is a younger ſon of a very antient and honourable family of Randalſtown, in the north of Ireland.

BIRTHS.

AT Rahinſtown, co. Meath, the lady of Robert Bomford, eſq. of twin daughters — At Carrickfergus, mrs. Richard Dobbs, of a ſon—At Bath, the lady of col. Brownlow, of a ſon—At Ballechin, the lady of Hope Stuart, eſq. of Ballechin, of a daughter—At Gerrard's-croſs, England, the lady of Edward Thomas Huſſey, eſq. of Galtrim, in Ireland, was ſafely delivered of a ſon and heir—At Doniſhall, the lady of Richard Bookey, eſq. of a daughter—Of a ſon, lady Catherine Forreſter—The lady of A. Vanſittart, eſq. at Shotteſbrook, of a ſon and heir—The lady of G. Scott, eſq. at Betton, Salop of a ſon—The lady of T. Rowe, eſq. in Bedford-ſquare, London, of a ſon—Lady Stanley, in Groſvenor-ſquare, London, of a daughter—In Cork, the lady of Standiſh Barry, of Lemlara-houſe, eſq. of a ſon—In Tralee, the lady of Ralph Marſhall, eſq. banker, of a ſon—In York-ſtreet, the ife of mr. Black, of a ſon.

MARRIAGES.

At Sherborne, (England) mr. James Mitchell, of Gittiſhom, an eminent malſter and horſe-dealer, to miſs Camp, of the ſame place—At Killeſter, co. of Dublin, Sam. Draper, eſq. to miſs Wright, daughter of the late rev. dr. Wright—Lieutenant Caulfield, of the 24th reg. of the line, to miſs Chriſtianna Nicholſon, eldeſt daughter to John Nicholſon, of Stramore, in the county of Down, eſq.—At Kilmore, captain John Calvert, of the Sligo infantry, to miſs Hegan, of Balliwilly, co. of Armagh—Mr. Robert Campbell, of Greyabbey, ſurgeon, &c. to miſs M'Vee, of Whitechurch

church—At St. James's church, Weſtminſter, London, Richard Tyrrel, eſq. to miſs Gerrard, both of Dublin—Lieutenant William Johnſon, of Glenavy, to miſs Hopes, of Ballenderry—At Brinny church, Cork, John Warring, eſq. lieut. of his majeſty's 23d light dragoons, to miſs Treſilian, eldeſt daughter of Stewart Treſilian, of Bandon, eſq.—The rev. Joſeph Jervois, of Bandon, to miſs Dring, ſecond daughter of the late rev. Robert Dring, of Rock-grove—At Bath, mr. Francis Saple, of London, to miſs A. Walker, eldeſt daughter of W. Walker, eſq. of Derry—Robert Montgomery, eſq. of Belfaſt, to miſs Jackſon, daughter of the late rev. Robert Jackſon, of Dunmurry—At Gretna-green, Scotland, Robert Parker, eſq. of the co. Limerick, to miſs E. O'Brien, of Taghmon, Ireland — At Glenarm, mr. Dan. M'Neill, to miſs Margaret Waddel—In Clonmel, Andrew Bourke, eſq. of Woodville, co. Tippearary, to miſs Jane Butler, daughter of the late James Butler, eſq, of Currabowen, co. Cork —At St. George's, Bloomſbury, W. Dickſon, eſq. of Proſpect-place, Southampton, to miſs Dickſon, niece of major-gen. Dickſon, of the ſame place—Capt. John Croft, of the royal navy, to miſs Buckworth, daughter of the late Thomas Buckworth, eſq. of Finſbury-ſquare, London—Edward Ellis, eſq. of Dancer's-hill, South Mims, to Mary Ann, daughter of Henry Heyman, eſq. Queen's-ſquare, London—At St. George's, Hanover-ſquare, the rev. Thomas Scott, of Brighton, to miſs M. White, youngeſt daughter of Joſ. White, eſq. of Cheſhire—Major-gen. the hon. Charles Hope, to miſs Finch Hatton, eldeſt daughter of George Finch Hatton, eſq. of Eaſtwell Park, Kent—At Leeds, the rev. Robert Moritt, rector of Caſtlehaven, co. Cork. to miſs Cookſon, of Leeds—Sir Vere Hunt, bart. of Curragh, to miſs Rice of Mount Trenchard, in the co. of Limerick—Mr. A. Halpen, of North King-ſtreet, to miſs Chriſtie, of Workman's fields, near Cabra, county of Dublin.

DEATHS.

wife of John Lindſay, eſq.—At Edinburgh, John Johnſton, of Kellobank, upwards of 50 years one of majeſty's juſtices of the peace for Dumfrieſshire —At Galway, mrs. Wade, wife of the rev. T. C. Wade—In Aungier-ſtreet, miſs Marguerin, daughter of the late J. Marguerin, of Ballyhaiſe, co. of Cavan, eſq.—In Dame-ſtreet, mr. John Poole, jeweller—In Biſhop ſtreet, mr. T. Doyle, builder— At Tours, in France, Jean Thurel, aged 103; he was a member of the legion of honour, entered the regiment of Touraine, in 1726, and ſerved without interruption for the ſpace of 22 years as full private —In Dame-ſtreet, mrs. Verney, aged 88 years, mother to mrs. Binns—At Cork, mr. J. Keating.—Mr. Alexander Donalſdon, of Ballymacoolly, near Market-hill—At Colebrian, near Ballymoney, the rev. John Wright, late preſbyterian miniſter of the pariſh of Donegore, for 52 years—Lately, mr. Bullock, baſket-maker, of Stafford, at the advanced age of 82, whoſe general habits of life were exemplary. By honeſt induſtry he ſupported a large family; and for the laſt 30 years he had been in the conſtant habit of appropriating the profits of 4 hours labour every day, to the uſe of the poor. Whenever this ſingular character felt diſpoſed to yield to the ebullitions of anger, or the murmurings of diſcontent, it was his conſtant practice to retire into a private apartment, where he kept, for the purpoſe, a coffin, in which he uſed to remain till he had ſubdued the irregularity of his paſſions by the efforts of his reaſon—At Heighington, in the co. of Durham, Anthony Jephſon, eſq. many years a lieutenant in his majeſty's navy—At Drumreagh, mr. Wm. Munce—In Stafford-ſtreet, mrs. Mary Maurice, aged 72—At Cape Town, lieut. Alex. Lachlan Maclean, of the 93d regiment, aged 21 years, 3d ſon of hon. capt. Maclean, and nephew of lieut. col. A. L. Maclean, aid-de-camp to his late royal highneſs prince Ferdinand—In Old Broad-ſtreet, dr. Hamilton, one of the phyſicians to the London hoſpital—In Seymour-ſtreet, Bath, in the 77th year of his age, Ferdinando Aerſon, eſq.